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AN
HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL
MEMOIR
OF THE
FAMILY OF POYNTZ,

BY
SIR JOHN MACLEAN, F.S.A., &c.

PART II.

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CHAPTER IV.

POYNTZ OF ALDERLEY.

The family of Poyntz of Alderley was founded by John Poyntz, second son of Sir Robert Poyntz of Iron Acton, Knt., by his wife Margaret, illegitimate daughter of Anthony Wydville, Earl Rivers. Sir Robert Poyntz being seized of divers lands and manors conveyed the same to certain trustees for the payment of his debts, &c., and, these being discharged, the residue to be applied to certain uses to be appointed by his will. By this instrument, dated 19th October 1520, he bequeathed, *inter alia*, the manor of Alderley and certain messuages in Tresham, Westcote, and Kylcote, together with the advowson of the Church of Alderley, to his brother Thomas Poyntz for the term of his life, free from all payments therefrom, and if it should happen that the Lady Ferrers, wife of the said Thomas, should die before him, the said trustees should be seized of the residue of the said manor and advowson, &c., to the use of the said Thomas Poyntz for the term of his life, and the said Thomas should see unto testator's son John Poyntz as the said Thomas in his discretion should think convenient; and after the death of the said Thomas Poyntz, the said trustees to stand seized of the said premises, testator's will being performed, to the use of the said John Poyntz and the heirs male of his body, and in default of such issue to the heirs male of testator's own body, and in default to the use of his right heirs. Thomas Poyntz and the Lady Ferrers his wife died not long afterwards, s.p., and the manor of Alderley with the advowson of the Church devolved upon the said John Poyntz, who was in possession thereof in 1531, when he presented one John Gybbys to the rectory, who was instituted¹ on 10th March, 1531-2.

In 1544, when John Poyntz was probably about 60 years of age, he was summoned to take part in the great expedition to France when King Henry

¹ Worcester, Card. Ghinucci Reg., fo. 24.

VIII, in alliance with Charles Emperor of Germany, agreed to make war upon Francis the French king with an army of 100,000 men. The two sovereigns, each commanding his army in person, were to meet somewhere near Paris, and after taking and plundering that city they were to lay waste the country as far as the Loire. On the 8th June the van of the English army, consisting of 30,000 men, crossed over to Calais under the command of the Duke of Norfolk until the king should arrive to assume the command in person, and by the king's orders immediately proceeded to invest Montreuil. The army was accompanied by a very large number of noblemen, knights, and gentlemen, but we do not find the name of John Poyntz among them.

Having appointed the queen (Katherine Parr) regent during his absence, Henry passed over to Calais with great magnificence on 14th July. The vessel which carried him across the channel was furnished with sails of cloth of gold. He at once sent an army to lay seige to Boulogne, which held on until 14th September when it surrendered. With Montreuil he was not so successful, and the delay ruined the campaign. Henry returned to England, his aims frustrated and himself greatly mortified.

John Poyntz on 1st June 1544 made his will, being about to go "over beyonde the see into ffrance to serve the Kings Highness in His Majesties warres." He bequeathes to "Sir Nicholas Poyntz" (of Iron Acton) "a standing cupp with a cover both of sylver and holy gylte, desiering hym to be good to his cosyns my children." He names his three sons Mathew, Robert, and William, and commits to his wife "the governances and keaping of Harry my eldest sonne and see hym honestly keapte and founde during his lief because he is not hable by reason of his weakness to governe himself," for which purpose he makes special bequests. He mentions and provides for his daughters, but does not name them, and appoints his wife Margaret his executrix. On the 7th June he adds a codicil which is not of much importance. To this his "brother Thomas Saunders" is witness.

He makes also an additional will of even date with the first (1st June) for the disposal of his estates, and devises to his executors two parts of all his manors, &c., in three parts to be divided until £60 shall be levied, which he gives unto his daughters, Frideswide, Elizabeth, and Alice for their advancement in marriage, to be equally divided between them at the time of their marriage or age of 21 years. If they die then he gives certain sums to his sons Robert and William towards their finding at school or other preferment. After the payment of such sums he gives certain lands in Alderley, then in the holding of James Webb, to William Poyntz his son for life, with remainder to

Mathew Poyntz his second son and the heirs males of his body. The residue of the said two parts he devises to his said son Mathew and his heirs, in default remainder to Robert Poyntz his son and heirs males, and in default of such issue remainder to son William Poyntz and his heirs males, and for lack of such issue remainder to the heirs males of the body of him the said John Poyntz, in default remainder to the heirs males of the body of Sir Robert Poyntz his father, in default to the right heirs of the said Robert for ever. As regards the other third part of his lands after his son Henry come to the full age of 21 years, the king and chief lord of the fee being fully satisfied of their dues according to the tenure, he devises it to Mathew his son and his heirs males, in default remainders over as above. He died on the 29th November 1544 when Henry Poyntz was found to be his son and heir aged 16 years, and the wills were proved by Margaret Poyntz the relict of the deceased and others on the 11th December following.¹

John Poyntz of Alderley was twice married, 1st to Elizabeth daughter of Sir Mathew Browne² of Betchworth Castle, Surrey, Knt., by Frideswide daughter of Sir Richard Guildford of Hamstead, Kent, by whom he had two sons, Henry or Harry, who unhappily was an imbecile, whom we have seen his father mentions with much affection in his will, and Matthew.

His second wife was Margaret, daughter of Nicholas Saunders, of Charlewood, co. Surrey. We do not know the date of this marriage, but on his death in 1544 all his children were within age. In the Inquisition taken at Wotton-under-Edge on 26th February, 36 Henry VIII., 1544-5, is set out an indenture dated 1st May of the same year made between the said John Poyntz, described as of Alderley of the one part, and Nicholas Saunders, of Charlewood, Surrey, Esq., of the other part, in which the said John covenants in consideration of the marriage between him and Margaret, daughter of the said Nicholas, and for certain sums of money paid, to make before the feast of St. Michael ensuing to John Plomer and Richard Secoll a sufficient estate in fee simple by fine or otherwise of and in the capital manor house of the manor of Alderley in which he the said John Poyntz then dwelt, and in the demesne lands thereof, &c., to the use of the said John Poyntz and Margaret and their heirs in full recompense of the dower of the said Margaret; and it is further provided that the said John Poyntz shall also make an estate in fee simple to the said John

¹ Inq. p.m. 36th Henry VIII. Exch.

² Sir Mathew Browne in his will, proved 7th September 1557, names his wife Frideswide and his daughter Agnes, and he does not mention his daughter Elizabeth, who doubtless died before the will was made (32 Wrastley).

Plomer and Richard Secoll in the residue of all the manor of Alderley, Standish, &c., to the use of the said John Poyntz and his heirs for ever. On the 28th of the same month the said John Poyntz granted to John Anderdon, gent., an annuity of 13s. 4d. out of the manor of Alderley for his council, and he afterwards made his will which is abstracted above. The jurors found that he died on 29th November 1544, and that Margaret his relict survived.¹

Margaret relict of John Poyntz married secondly, before 1558, as his third wife, James Skynner of Reigate, Esq., who died in that year. In his will dated 23rd July 1558, he bequeaths to his wife Margaret his lease of the parsonage of Reigate, and gives legacies to Robert Poynes, William Poynes, and Elizabeth Poynes his wife's children. She proved her second husband's will² 7th December 1558. She made her own will on 22nd September 1563, in which she gives to John Skynner her son, and Alice her daughter his wife, "one table of needle-work" of my husband Poyntz arms. Besides the children named in Mr. Skynner's will³ she had by her first husband two other daughters, Frideswide and Alice.

Robert Poyntz the eldest son of John Poyntz of Alderley, by his second wife Margaret Saunders, was born at Alderley. He was a Scholar of Winchester, and was elected a Fellow of New College, Oxford, 26th August 1554, took his B.A. degree 5th June 1556, and proceeded M.A. 1560. He embraced the Roman Catholic religion, and in the troublous times in which he lived he left his relations and country for conscience sake, settled at Louvaine, in Brabant, and became a Student of Divinity. He wrote a book entitled "*Testimonies for the Real Presence of Christ's Body and Blood in the Blessed Sacrament of the Aultar, faithfully translated out of six ancient fathers, together with certaine notes detecting the Sacramentaries false dealing*, by Robert Pointz, Student of Divinitie, Lovaine 1566." He also wrote "*Miracles performed by the Eucharist*." Both works are in the British Museum Library.

Robert Poyntz is mentioned in the following will of Richard Smyth, M.A., Fellow sometime of Trinity College, Cambridge, dated 4th April 1568. Smyth describes himself as "in health at this present and of perfect remembrance" for which he thanks God, "and mynding by His grace, from Venyse to take my journey to Hierusalem and to visite the Holie Sepulchre, in the company of my singular friend, Mr. Robert Poyntz, considering the casualties humaine that maye and doe happen unto a man in so long a voyage, doe make my last will,"

¹ Account of Nicholas Wykes in the Exchequer. Inq. p.m. No. 12., 36 and 37 Henry VIII.

² P.C.C. (10 Welles).

³ P.C.C. 4th July, 1564, by John Skynner, (22 Stevenson).

&c. "I commend my soule into the hands of Almighty God, the Blessed Virgine St. Marie, and all the hoalie Companie of Heaven. I will be buried at the discrecion of my very friend Mr. Robert Poyntz," &c., Proved 25th April, 1570.¹ Robert Poyntz died abroad without issue.

William Poyntz second son of John Poyntz of Alderley, by Margaret his wife, settled at Reigate, co. Surrey, of whom hereafter.

Of Frideswide Poyntz eldest daughter of John Poyntz of Alderley, we have no further knowledge than that she is named in her father's will, and probably died young and unmarried. Elizabeth, the second daughter, married at Reigate, 9th June, 1560, George Elyot, Merchant Tailor of London; and Alice, the third daughter, married John Skynner, eldest son of John Skynner of Reigate, of an ancient family there, Clerk Controller of the household to Queen Elizabeth, by Anne daughter of Walter Newdigate. John Skynner of Reigate, the younger, made his will 8th May, 25th Elizabeth (1583) in which he names Alice his wife, his brother-in-law William Poyntz and Elizabeth his wife, testator's kinswoman, to whom he bequeaths a tenement in Reigate, called Woodhatch, wherein the said "William and Elizabeth inhabit and dwell together," and John Poyntz their son, and appoints his wife Alice one of his executors, and his brother-in-law William Poyntz overseer. The will was proved by Alice Skynner, relict of deceased, on 27th June 1584.² Of this marriage there was no issue. Alice afterwards married Sir Thomas Palmer, Knt., and died before 1606, as on the 12th August in that year, administration of the goods of John Skynner not before administered to, was granted to Richard Elliott, cousin of deceased, Alice Skynner alias Palmer being dead.

In consequence of the incapacity of Henry, the eldest son of John Poyntz, Matthew his second son, whom he made his heir, succeeded to Alderley and the other estates, in accordance with the provisions of his father's will. He married first, in 1554, Winifred, daughter of William Wild, of Camberwell, co. Surrey. She died in 1578 and was buried at Alderley, and had issue by him 15 children, of whom 12 survived her. He married secondly, Elizabeth Ingler, of whose parentage we have no knowledge, who survived him, and with William Ingler, her brother, being the executors named therein, proved his will. She was probably the relict of one Culpepper alias Crew. Matthew Poyntz in his will mentions Edward Culpeper, gent., his son-in-law (step-son), and Robert Hale calls Anthony Crew, his brother-in-law.

Matthew Poyntz in 7th Elizabeth was called upon to shew by what title

¹ P.C.C. (11 Lyon.)

² P.C.C. (7 Watson.)

he claimed the goods and chattels of felons in the manor of Alderley. He had great trouble with his eldest son and heir, who was a wicked and abandoned person, as we shall see when we treat specially of him. In 1604 Matthew Poyntz complains in Chancery that he is lawfully seized in his demesne as of fee tail in the manor of Alderley, and that by the importunate suit and guilefull persuasion of Nicholas Poyntz his son and heir, towards his preferment in marriage with Ann Berkeley, one of the daughters of Sir Maurice Berkeley, of Bruton, co. Som., deceased about 20 years last past, did enter into certain articles of covenant made between him, the said Matthew Poyntz, and Nicholas Poyntz for the leaving the manor of Alderley intailed as it was before, and he did by the like subtil persuasion enter into a bond of obligation of £1,000 to Henry Berkeley, of Bruton, for the performance of the same, which said bond was of trust for the security and behoof of Nicholas Poyntz, albeit he, the said Matthew Poyntz, did yield up towards the preferment of Nicholas Poyntz and Ann an estate which he then had for the term of his life in the manor and farm of Simmonsall, worth by the year £200, which is well near the one half of the said Matthew Poyntz's whole estate, and that Nicholas Poyntz had commenced an unkind suit against the said Matthew Poyntz concerning the said covenants which was yet depending in the Court of Chancery, and that the Lord Chancellor had been pleased to write divers letters for the compounding of the said suit; and although the said Matthew Poyntz hath many other children, sons and daughters, every of which, in regard of dutiful obedience, better deserve, yet moved out of considerate regard to the Lord Chancellor's letters directed for peace, lightly weighing the undutifulness of the said Nicholas or the single ability of him the said Matthew for the advancement of the rest of his children, did yield and agree lately, over and beside the said farm of Simmonsall already granted, either to entail the said manor as before, or, at the pleasure of the said Nicholas, to pass an assurance of the manor of Alderley, upon the delivery of the said covenant and bond to be cancelled, to the use of the said Matthew Poyntz for life, and the mansion house and demesne lands after his decease to Elizabeth his wife for life in recompense of her dower, and after her decease the residue of the said demesne lands to Nicholas Poyntz for life, remainder to Robert Poyntz his son and heir, remainder to William Poyntz another son of the said Nicholas, with remainders over; and albeit the said Nicholas did hold himself fully contented therewith, Dame Margaret Berkeley, about two years since, by the mediation of her son Sir Maurice Berkeley, laboured to the like effect of composition and did faithfully promise to deliver the said bond of £1000 to the

said Matthew cancelled, by a day long passed, upon the tender of the said assurance, and Matthew Poyntz did tender and deliver to Nicholas Poyntz a draft in paper to this effect, and was willing to have the same engrossed and perfected upon the delivery of the aforesaid bond and covenant, Lady Margaret as executrix of the aforesaid Sir Henry Berkeley keeps the said bond and has secretly attempted suit at common law upon the said bond against the said Matthew Poyntz, and he prays a subpoena and injunction.

Lady Margaret Berkeley in her answer, sworn at Bruton, 15th January, 1604-5, says that Matthew Poyntz hath levied a fine of the manor and premises, as he confesses, by which he hath barred the estate taile made by John Poyntz, Esq., his father, and he cannot permit the said manor to descend to Sir Nicholas Poyntz as he covenanted to do, but thereby hath broken the covenant, and she prays to be dismissed the suit.

We know not how this disgraceful affair ended, but it was probably closed by the death of Matthew Poyntz, which occurred very soon afterwards. He was a man of deep religious feelings and strong puritanical proclivities as appears from his last will, dated 15th June 1605, of which the following is a verbatim copy.

Matthewe Poyntz, of Alderley, Glouc., Esquire, June 15th, 1605.

I comende and bequeathe my soule into the handes of Almighty God, my Creator, faithfullie believing, through his infinite mercie to receave free remission of all my synnes and the inheritance of the Kingdom of Heaven, after this life, in my soule and spirytte with the blessed Trynitie, viz., the Father, the Sonne and the Holie Ghost the Comforter, hath geven me, and poured into my frayle body, there to remayne withe Him and his Angells and soules of all the righteous according to the promise of Jesus Christe for ever. And my bodye to be buried withoute all funerall pompe, not in the Church but in the Churchyard of Alderlye aforesaid, neere to the place where Mr. John Stanton, sométyme Minister of the Worde lieth buried.¹ And for the disposing and gevinge of this my Manner of Alderlye my will and meaneinge is that it contynue, as I have of late passed a Conveyance or Deed of ffeoffment to my sonne in law Christopher Kingscotte Esq.² and Mr. John Cooper, Person of Alderlye, and to their heirs to the use

¹ Alderley Churchyard, John Stanton, minister, who after his exile for religion, began to preach the Gospel of Christ in this parish 1558, and so continued till his death, 1579.

² In 1592-3 a fine was levied between Matthew Poyntz, Esq., and others querists, and Christopher Kingscote, gent., and others deforciant, of the manor of Kingscote, &c.—Pedes Finium, 35th Elizabeth, Hil. This was probably connected with the settlements made on the marriage of Christopher Kingscote and Sylvestre, daughter of William Poyntz.

of me Matthewe Poyntz duringe my life without impeachment of any maner of scrippe or waste, and after my decease to the use of Sir Nicholas Poyntz my eldest sonne during his life, without impeachment of any maner of waste, and after his decease, to the use of Robert Poyntz eldest sonne of the said Nicholas, and of the heirs males of his bodye begotten, and for defaulte of such yssue to the use of Willyam Poyntz, second sonne of the said Nicholas, and the heires males of his bodye lawefullie begotten, and for defaulte of such yssue to the use of Thomas Poyntz, second sonne of the said Matthew, and to the heirs males of his bodie lawfullie begotten, and for defaulte of such issue to the use of Edward Pointz, youngest sonne of the said Matthew, and to the heirs males of his bodye lawfully begotten, and for defaulte of such yssue to the use of the right heires of me the said Matthew Pointz for ever, as in the said Deed more at large yt appeareth.

Item. I doo give and bequeathe to Elizabeth my well beloved wife my Capitall or Manner Howse of Alderley, withe all the demesne landes thereunto belonginge, as they are nowe in myne owne occupation and manurance, for and duringe her natural life; with full powers for her, to take fewell for fire-bote oute of the woods remayninge or growinge upon any parte of the Demesne landes, and makinge no waste, to be burned and spent in my said manner house, and no where else, accordinge to a Deed of ffeoffment thereof made to my sonnes in law Mr. Richard Ellyott of Weston in the Countie of Surrey Esq., and John Chambers of Tresham Gent., and Edward Culpeper Gent., as by the said Deed yt dothe and maye appeare.

Item. I give and bequeathe to Edward Norice, Student in Magdalene Hall in Oxon, all my instruments, and all my bookes, except the booke of Mr. John Foxe intituled "Acts and Monuments," which I give to the parish of Alderlye aforesaid, and I charge Nicholas Pointz, my eldest sonne and nexte Heire, to have respecte to the exercise and preachinge of the Gospell, and it is to be upholden by hym as much as in hym lieth, chardginge likewise my sonnes-in-law to be assistants therein, as they and everye of them will answer at the dreadful day of Judgement, especiallie John Coper, now mynister of the woorde, who hath during the tyme, and sithence I have bestowed the benefice uppon him, bin diligente and carefull therein.

Item. I give to all my Servaunts, as well men as women, 13s. 4d. a peece, in token of my good will towards them, and further paineful servinge me durynge the tyme of their service.

Item. I give to the Poore of Hawksburye 20s., of Wootton 20s., of Kingswoode 20s., of Alderlye 10s. Also I geve to Elizabeth my wife all my implements and household stuff now remayninge in the newe Chamber. Also I give to Thomas Pointz my sonne the one haulf of all my goods and chattels in and about all my house and groundes.

Item. I give unto the said Edward Pointz all the beddinge and furniture in the Well Chamber, All the residewe of my goods and chattels, my legacies and debts being payde, I give and bequeathe unto Elizabeth my wife, whom with William Ingler her Brother, I make Executors of this my laste Will. And I make and ordaine my sonnes in law, Mr. Robert Hale and Mr. John Chambers, overseers of this my laste Will and

Testamente, desiringe them to doo their beste endeavours that my laste Wille may be performed, and I doo geve them for their paynes takinge therein 20s apeace, revokinge all others or former Wills or wrytinge by me heretofore made that may any waye contradicte this my last Will. In wytness whereof I have hereunto putt my hande and seale the daye and yeare first above wrytten. by me MATTHEWE POINTZ. Signed seale and delyvered in presence of us John Cooper, John Collwell, Edward Colpeper, the marke of Richard Nott, Anthony Kingscot.

Published and declared as the last Will of me the saide Mathewe Pointz, the 12th daye of August 1605 in the presence of the former wytnesses and others: viz. John Chambers and Mathewe Crewe. Proved by William Ingler one of the executors named. Power reserved to Elizabeth Pointz, relict of the said deceased, November 19th 1605. P.C.C. (78 Hayes.)

Matthew Poyntz built two houses for poor people at Alderley. He died in 1605 but we do not know the exact date.

By his wife Winifred Wild he had a large family consisting of six sons and seyen daughters. Of Sir Nicholas his eldest son we shall treat in its proper place; nor need we say any thing here with respect to Matthew and John the second and third sons, both of whom predeceased their father without issue. To Edward his youngest surviving son, Matthew Poyntz by his will dated in 1605, when that son was 30 years of age, gave, as we have seen, certain leases which he held in Neve and Kingswood. He seems to have been a very violent and ill-conducted man which may perhaps be accounted for in the sequel. In 1598 George Huntley of Boxwell, co. Gloucester, Esq., complained in the Star Chamber against John Chambers and Matthew Poyntz. He alleged that he was the Queen's farmer of Boxwell and Wast, and by right farmer of common of pasture for 100 sheep in Hamme Green, and he charged John Chambers of Trepam, yeoman, with "conceiving and harbouring in himself mortal hatred and extreme malice against the said George Huntley, and drawing by his mediation also into the syncke of malice one Matthew Poyntz his father-in-law, one of the Justices of the Peace for Gloucestershire," and of exhibiting bills in the Star Chamber, in conjunction with the said Matthew Poyntz, with the view of depriving the queen of her right of common in Hamme Green. After other charges against Matthew Poyntz he goes on to allege that "one Edward Poyntz, son of Matthew Poyntz, in the churchyard of Alderley on the sabbath day shortly after divine service on the 1st November last, in the view and presence of Matthew Poyntz and in the sight of all the parishioners, did make a violent assault upon the servant of Hall of Wotton-under-Edge, and did most cruelly and dispitefully beate, wound, and *naifray* (?)¹ him contrary to the queen's peace, &c., to the great astonishment

¹ Shakespeare uses the word *ray* as a word of infamy or contempt, and *fray* is "to terrify." ("Twelfth Night," ii, 3). Can *naifray* signify to frighten by opprobrious language.

and terror of the beholders, and in high contempt of Her Majesty's process, all which the said Matthew Poyntz beheld, yet, neglecting his duty as Justice of the Peace, did neither reprehend his son nor inflict any punishment of the same, &c. In answer to certain interrogatories ministered to Matthew Poyntz in this matter he admitted that he had been a Justice of the Peace for 20 years, that Edward Poyntz his son did follow Hall's man and "strook him with his hand in the necke in the churchyarde in his presence, whereupon," he says, "he being verye angrye with his sonne followed him and gave him with his fist three or four blows, that his fist was sore there withall."¹ What was the result of these unseemly proceedings we know not, but it was not long before we find Edward Poyntz again as defendant in his own person in the Star Chamber for still more riotous and insubordinate conduct. He would appear to have been an officer in the train bands of the county, and Henry Parminster deposes that he was at Charfield down, and did see there assembled in and about her majesty's service, Sir Thomas Throckmorton and Sir John Poyntz, Knts, and George Huntley, esq., for the training of the Companies to the number of 300 or 400. He saw Edward Poyntz at the muster, and there very arrogantly and contemptuously behave himself toward Sir Thomas Throckmorton, to the hindrance of Her Majesty's service, and very likely, by his obstinate usage of himself, to have set all the trained soldiers there assembled by the eares. He did see Poyntz offer to draw his sword half out of the scabbard to the intent therewith to strike Sir Thomas Throckmorton, as he thinketh, which Poyntz had effected had not Thomas Hall, servant to Sir Thomas Throckmorton, hindered him of his purpose. And shortly after Poyntz's lewd behaviour he got upon his horse and put spurs to him, whereupon all the companies there assembled were in a great maze . . . took him by the shoulders and pulled him down, being upon his horse riding and rescuing himself from the officer which had the keeping of him by the commandment of the justices for his insolent behaviour. He did see the said Poyntz very obstinately shew himself to Sir Thomas Throckmorton in not doing any courtesy, in putting off his cap unto him, being willed thereunto by some of the companies after his riding away and rescuing himself as is aforesaid, saying that he was "as good a man as Throckmorton and did not owe any service or duty at all,"² &c.

An Inquisition was taken at Malmesbury, co. Wilts, on the 17th September, 9th James (1611), to enquire if Edward Poyntz were a lunatic. The jurors found that he was, and that he was seized of about 100 acres of land in Kingswood, called

¹ Star Chamber Proceedings 40th and 41st Elizabeth, George Huntley *versus* John Chambers and Matthew Poyntz.

² Chancery Proceedings, 44 Elizabeth, Throckmorton *v.* Edward Poyntz. Bundle xi. 10, xxxviii, 36.

Harrow Fields and Chase Hills, with appurtenances, and that he had no other lands in the county of Wilts, and that they did not know his age or his nearest of kin.¹ This finding will account for his violent and extraordinary conduct. He died soon after this date without issue.

Thomas Poyntz, the fifth son of Matthew Poyntz, married Elizabeth daughter of Edward Basset of Uley, Esq., and relict of William Claville of Bencombe¹ in the same parish. She died in 1668 at the age of 91 years. He witnessed the will of Edward Basset, proved 5th Nov. 1602, and we have no further knowledge of him except that in 1623 he attested the pedigree of his family at the Heralds' Visitation, and we know not the date of his death. He had issue seven children, of whom presently. She made her will on 7th Nov. 1666, in which she describes herself as of Bencombe in Uley, and desires to be buried at Uley not far from the chancel door. She bequeaths all her grounds called the Rowce, &c., to her sons Joseph and John Poyntz, her executors, and directs that the same shall be sold for the payment of a debt of £45 owing by her late husband to her son Matthew Poyntz, who had had his diet of her ever since the money became due. She gives her mansion, messuages, &c., called Bencombe place, with all her lands, &c., in Uley, Owlpen, Bagpath, Slimbridge and Cowley, to her sons Joseph and John for two years, paying to her son Matthew Poyntz the yearly rent of £20; names her daughters Elizabeth Colshay, Sarah Ashmead and Martha Poyntz, and her kinsman Abraham Kingscott of Kingscott, Gent., whom she appoints overseer. Proved at Gloucester 1668.

Of the younger children of Matthew Poyntz and their issue we need say no more than is shewn in the tabular pedigree annexed.

Sir Nicholas Poyntz, son and heir of Matthew Poyntz, succeeded to the estate on his father's death. We have seen that he had already attained to the degree of a knight, having been dubbed by King James I., among the 410 whom he knighted at Whitehall, on the 23rd July, 1603. Hitherto knighthood had been regarded as

¹ Inq. Wards and Liveries, 8th & 9th James, Bundle 5, No. 12.

² William Claville, who was buried at Uley, 8th August, 1601, was the lineal representative of John Claville, who in the time of Edward III. married Agnes daughter and heir of John de Bencombe, and had issue Robert Claville a Burgess of Bristol, by whose death in 19th Rich. II. the same descended to William Claville father of Robert, father of Richard, father of Robert, father of William, father of Giles, by whose death in 43rd Elizabeth the same descended to William his son and heir, then aged about 70 years and a bachelor: But the same year marrying with Elizabeth a young gentlewoman, daughter of Edward Bassett, Esq., then dwelling at Uley, did by his deed dated 21st May 43 Eliz. convey to her use in fee simple this and all his other lands; and shortly after died leaving her (as talk commonly was) both a widow and a maid, who in January 44th Elizabeth married Thomas Poyntz, second (surviving) son of Matthew Poyntz, Esq., then of Alderley, who have a plentiful posterity and are still living (1639), inhabiting upon this ancient farm place or capital messuage. Berkeley MSS. *Smyth's Hist. of the Hundred of Berkeley*, p. 78.

an especial mark of royal favour, but on the 17th July, the king, being then at Hampton Court, issued a general summons, that all persons who possessed £40 a year in land, either to come and receive the honour or compound with the king's Commissioners.¹ It appears from the pitiful petition in chancery of Matthew Poyntz that he had on the marriage of his son Nicholas settled upon him the manor of Simondshall of the value of £200 a year, so that, so far, he was qualified to partake of the king's shameless prostitution of a most honourable dignity.

We have, from the petition above alluded to, already seen something of the character of this *mauvais sujet*. He was a wild, violent, unprincipled and extravagant man, who eventually brought his estate and his family to utter ruin. On 15th June, 1583, he married Ann, daughter of Sir Maurice Berkeley, of Bruton, co. Somerset, by Catherine, daughter of William Blount, Lord Mountjoy, and relict of . . . Champernoun, his first wife, an alliance which the unfortunate lady had doubtless sufficient cause to regret during her whole life, which terminated in 1625. Sir Maurice Berkeley was dead before this marriage of his daughter, and hence it was arranged by his son and successor Sir Henry Berkeley and his wife, Dame Margaret daughter of William Ligon, Esq., and relict of Sir Thomas Russell. By his will dated 10th February, 1579-80, and proved 16th November, 1581,² Sir Maurice Berkeley bequeathed to his daughter Ann £600 and £20 to buy her a gold chain.

By indentures dated 12th April, 9th James (1611), Sir Nicholas Poyntz of Alderley, Knt., Robert Poyntz, his son and heir apparent, and Edward Poyntz brother of the said Nicholas, who, we have seen, not long afterwards upon inquisition was found to be a lunatic, in consideration of the sum of £100 conveyed to Arthur Crewe of Hillesley in Hawkesbury, co. Glouc., gent., and to Ann Bridges of the same place, widow, certain lands.³

Not long after this he became much involved in debt, and one Henry Clark, bailiff for the sheriff of Gloucestershire, was sent to arrest him at the suit of one Benedict Webb, which Clark was murdered by the said Sir Nicholas Poyntz and his eldest son Robert. For this crime they received the royal pardon in April 1617, yet the king inserted therein certain indemnities which Sir Nicholas had to pay.⁴

We next find him a prisoner in the king's bench from whence, on the 2nd July, 1618, he writes to the Lords of the Council stating that he is unjustly detained in prison by Sir George Reynell (marshall of the king's bench), on a suit

¹ Rymer's Foedera xvj. 530.

² P.C.C. (40 Darcy).

³ Rot. Clause, 9th James.

⁴ Signet Book.

for a fine for rioting, respited many years before, and for which his lands are now extended. He charges Sir George with refusing the Lord Chief Justice's order to admit him to bail, and has spoken disrespectfully of the Queen, whose servant he is.¹

He was still in prison in the next year as appears from the following petition dated 22nd May, 1619, addressed to the Lords of the Privy Council:—

“JUSTICE, JUSTICE, JUSTICE.

“Right Honourable Lords,

“Whereas the 17th of this monthe of Maye, I received letters from your Honors and now being kept in the prison (agaynst law, justice, his Majesties Crowne and dignitie, without any cause, for debt or otherwise, but uppon malice) by the Gayler of the Kinge's Bench, the like case was never offered to any subject. Therefore I am humblie to praye your Honors that your Honors will send for me and this Gayler to come before your Honors for, both his Majesties further service and to do right to me, the like contempt to your Honors letters, and to law and Justice, was never offered by any such mean man to any his Majesties loyall subiets before. Even so, I humblie take my leave of your Honors. From the Kinge's Bench Prison this xxijth of May, 1619.

Your Honors most humblie at Commandment.²

NI. POYNTZ.”

Soon after this Sir Nicholas would seem to have recovered his liberty and returned into Gloucestershire. He was not long however at peace. The old feud with George Huntley broke out again. Among the State Papers we find the following articles of the intolerable oppressions, wrongs, briberies, and cozenage of his Majesty, by George Huntley of Gloucestershire where he dwells, and all his friends and followers supported by him. “He the said George Huntley against his Majesty and all other his subjects dwelling by him protects them all, he and they committing dayly such grevances unsupportable. This George Huntley being for many his intollerable wrongs, oppressions, riots and misdemeanors in the countrie where he dwells, being once a pore man now hath raysed himself to a great estate,³ and crepes in to be a Justice of the Peace, at dyvers several complaints

¹ State Papers, Dom. xcviij, 2.

² State Papers, Dom., cix, 47.

³ George Huntley's pedigree, of four descents, was registered at the Herald's Visitation of Gloucestershire in 1623, but no arms were allowed. He was the son of Henry Huntley of Boxwell, by his first wife Elizabeth, daughter of William Throckmorton of Tortworth, co. Gloucester. He married Constance daughter and co-heir of Edward Ferris of Benington, co. Warwick, by whom he had several children. This marriage may have been the cause of his increased prosperity.

and pleadings in the Star Chamber was dyvers tymes fined and by a decree put out of the justiceship of the peace, whereby he gets much money and works his own ends, and in great contempt of the decree, still executes the office."

Among many other charges alleged against George Huntley is that of defrauding the king in the rating of the subsidies, but those which most attract our notice, as affecting Sir Nicholas Poyntz, are the following :

Item.—The aforesaid George Huntley procured a Lattitat and thereupon a warrant from one Wyke, his cozen, being the under-shreves Deputie, as he says. Your Petitioner, Sir Nicholas Poyntz, dwelling by the said Huntley and oweing not a pennie, and thinking him his friende, came with a fotte-boy to se him at his house. Presently one Richard Grene, Huntley's nevewe, and three other of Huntley's plowmen cam into the parler, sitting with his daughter and others, and arrested your Petitioner Sir Nicholas Poyntz with a warrant from Wike, as Deputy to the under-sheriffe of Gloucestershire, who was dead at London before the warrant was served on Sir Nicholas Poyntz.

Huntlies Baylies kept him a prisoner in his house at night and imprisoned his boy that he might not send for bayle. The next day the said Richard Grene, and three others, forceably set Sir Nicholas Poyntz upon a horse, leding him with a haulter towards the comon Gayle, and going by a Justice of the Peace's house, Huntley's cosin, desired of the Justice some redres or to accept bale, but he would not: so after some six miles journey to the Baylies, forcible brought Sir Nicholas Poyntz into an old howse, where, after many threatenings and hurts given to Sir Nicholas, he sodenly lepped from them and locked them into the old house, and so Sir Nicholas Poyntz recovered a strong house and kept it with weapons. These Baylies plowmen went to the constable and other officers and raysed above 300 persons cam and beset the house where Sir Nicholas Poyntz was. His Majesty's officers called for theyr warrant, who seeing but a bare warrant upon a Lattitat, the officers would do nothing in it. So George Huntley cam himself and tore the warrant, and so Sir Nicholas Poyntz grievously hurt went hom, and was long ere he could recover himself, which cost him above £100.

He also charges George Huntley with inciting his youngest son, Matthew Huntley, to come to him, the said Sir Nicholas Poyntz in the Temple walks, to give him many reprobruous and disgracefull words as "the lye" and the lyke as "villain," he being then in a privileged place, &c., &c., and he prays that George Huntley may be bound to his good behaviour and imprisoned till he, Sir Nicholas, be satisfied.¹

Under the date of the 4th April, 1626, we find a petition from Sir Nicholas Poyntz to George Duke of Buckingham, which throws some light on the affair of the murder for which Sir Nicholas received the king's pardon, the means by which he obtained that pardon, and the manner in which, at that date, justice was administered. It would seem, however, from the relation here made that the case was not one of murder but of manslaughter. Sir Nicholas in his petition recites that he had paid to the duke's use, through his brother Sir Edward Villiers, £500 for which he,

¹ State Papers Dom., James I. cxxxv, No. 65.

the petitioner, through his Grace's means should be delivered out of the prison of the King's Bench. He says "a base fellow assaulting your Petitioner with three more with him all greatly weaponed with long priked staves so in Petitioner's own self defence one of them was killed. His Majesty sent to the master of the four men to know whie they did so assault your Petitioner, who answered his Majesty under his hand that he forbad them pretending an arrest for an action of trespass, wherein Petitioner did no trespass, nor owed him any mony. Hereupon the King's Majestie granted your Petitioner his pardon and his sonnes by his Grace's favour and mediation, for the which Petitioner came to thank your Grace, having the £500, and your Grace promised your Petitioner that you would both deliver Petitioner out of prison with his Majesty's pardon and do him any good in any other of his causes; but the pardon being pleaded, yet the marshal of the prison would not freely discharge Petitioner in many months, to his great charge." As far as we can understand the petition, which is not clearly worded, Sir Nicholas desired his freedom to go abroad for which purpose a warrant was necessary, which he could not obtain and so he remained in prison and the marshal kept some £300 of his goods and writings. Some few months after the marshal of the prison of the bench placed him in the prison with many other prisoners upon no just cause, and being long there he petitioned the king, "the marshall presupposed a mutiny in the prison and brought the petitioner into question for the mutiny, when in deed nor worde no act was done by petitioner." And he alleges that "Sir Edward Villiers was present and said nothing when petitioner was so tyrannously used against lawe and justice, although he received the £500, combining and complotting with the marshal of the bench they committed petitioner to Newgate to lye in a dungeon without bed or light, and so inforced to lye in a coffin."

He therefore prays the Duke that he will either cause him to be had out of Newgate or repay the £500, expressing a hope that the laws of England and the Parliament will give him justice therein, not suffering him, without law and justice or any cause, to be kept in prison, which he adds is much wondered at by many thousands; many kings and princes wondering at it being advertised of it he being descended from some of them.¹

In the same month he petitioned the Lords of the Council direct, representing that their Lordships had upon a "private complaynt" sent a warrant under "which he had been sent to the loathsome prison of Newgate, and to have all his actions layd on him, all which was not wont to be that Honorable Table's proceeding." He prays for a writ of Habeas Corpus for his remand to the king's bench, whither he had been

¹ Dom. State Papers, Charles I. xxiv, No. 22.

formerly remanded, and that the order might be openly pronounced at the council table which made him (seeing that the king's writ and the former order of the council had been openly rejected and contemned by Cockin¹) to go in at Greyes Inn gate.

There is a certificate dated 20th December, 1626, of the better sort of prisoners as gentlemen debtors in the common gaol of Newgate, and among them is the name of Sir Nicholas Poyntz.² Later there is a further petition without date but assigned to 1627,³ in which he represents that this long time he hath been committed to the common gaol of Newgate, put in the darke dungeon, where no beds are, so enforced to lye in his coffin, and prays that the hearing and orders of his case may be committed to the lord keeper and some other of the council.⁴

We find full particulars of the case, from the other side, of the conduct of Sir Nicholas Poyntz in a petition to the Privy Council by Thomas Cockayne, late under sheriff of Middlesex, and Mary Standishe widow, late his surety for the execution of that office.

They represent that Sir Nicholas Poyntz having remayned long in execution in the King's Bench for sundry great sums, in great distress, ready to perish, contrived for his escape a mutiny in the said Prison, and thereupon he and the other mutineers were removed by Habeas Corpus into petitioner's custody to Newgate, and that afterwards another writ of Habeas Corpus was granted to the said Cockayne to bring the said Sir Nicholas and the other mutineers before the King and Council at Whitehall, where, after examination, they were again remanded to Newgate. Upon his special petition and for some reason, (perhaps the intervention of the Duke of Buckingham) Sir Nicholas was remanded to the marshal of the King's Bench, who, in the absence of a writ of Habeas Corpus, refused to receive him, and in the way of being brought back to Newgate at Gray's Inn gate he was rescued. Afterwards petitioner says by several pursuits and warrants he was twice taken again at the peril of the life of the petitioner and his bailiffs and to his great expence, nevertheless he had been twice again enlarged, first by pretence of privilege of Parliament, and secondly by pretence of privilege of the Royal Palace of Whitehall. He further represents that now one George Huntley, Esq., and Tymothie Smyth, Gent., two of his creditors, have brought their action of debt upon an escape against the sheriff of Middlesex, whom the undersheriff and his sureties were bound to hold harmless, for £673 13s. 10d., and that they intend to enforce a satisfaction from the petitioners, being desperate of any satisfaction from the said Poyntz; and they pray

¹ Thomas Cockayne, Under Sheriff of Middlesex.

² Ibid. xlii, 49.

³ Ibid. xxv, 101.

⁴ Ibid. lxxxix, 60.

a further warrant for his arrest, and trust that in the meantime the suit may be stayed.

It appears from a further petition of the same parties, a little later, that another warrant was obtained for the arrest of Sir Nicholas Poyntz, and that, to the very great charges of the petitioner, and the great hazard of the messenger's life employed in the execution thereof, he had once more taken the said Sir Nicholas and brought him before the Council; and the petitioner prays that their lordships will be pleased to commit him to the gaol of Newgate, and direct letters to the Judge of the King's Bench to stay further proceedings in the suit. The Council thereupon stayed the action, and it is concluded that Sir Nicholas was committed. It appeared, however, immediately afterward that both Huntley and Smyth were dead and hence it is presumed the suit abated, nevertheless it would seem that Sir Nicholas was still kept in prison down to the last day of November, 1629, for on that day he wrote to Lord Conway, then President of the Council, thanking his lordship for taking an interest in his business and requesting that he might be called before his lordship; and, in his usual manner, alleging "that there never was so unjust a proceeding agaynst a gentleman of my rancke, altogether agaynst law and justice."¹

We have no further information concerning him until 31st April, 1636, before which time he had died, for, under that date, it appears that the king had granted to Robert Marburg, one of his Majesty's gentlemen ushers quarter waiters, a fine of £500 imposed on Sir Nicholas Poyntz deceased, in the Star Chamber, and £200 imposed upon Robert Poyntz his son in the 11th of King James, for levying whereof process had been issued to the sheriff of Gloucestershire, who had returned that neither lands nor goods were to be found for the payment of the said fines, as Mr. Barker, receiver of the fines imposed in the Star Chamber, has certified.

The sufferings undergone by Sir Nicholas Poyntz during a great many years of his life were undoubtedly very great, though we fear we cannot place very strong reliance on his own statements. We cannot, however, but pity him, and feel much commiseration for his unfortunate family, notwithstanding that he brought his miseries upon himself and them by his improvidence, and greatly aggravated them by his arrogant, violent and mutinous conduct. It would appear from his having claimed the privilege of Parliament, that he got himself elected a member of the House of Commons; but we have not found by what constituency. The date of his death is unknown to us. Probably it occurred in prison, where we know he was still confined at the end of 1629, and we have seen that he was dead before April, 1636. No will or administration of his effects have been discovered, at which we

¹ State Papers, Dom. Charles, clij, 61.

are not surprised, for his next-of-kin would hesitate to accept the latter and thereby make themselves responsible for his debts.

Before his death Sir Nicholas Poyntz alienated the manor of Alderley to Matthew Rogers, Gent., for the inquisition taken at Cirencester, after the death of the said Matthew, on the 8th Dec., 1640, shews that he died seized of the manor of Alderley, which he had bought for himself and his heirs of Sir Nicholas Poyntz, Knt., Robert Poyntz, son and heir apparent of the said Nicholas, and Thomas Poyntz, Gent., which manor was held of the king of the manor of Wallingford, co. Berks, by fealty only, at the rent of £2 per annum. The jurors found that the said Matthew died on the 28th October then last past, and that Abel Rogers was his son and heir, and was aged five years seven months and thirteen days.¹

Sir Nicholas Poyntz by his wife Anne Berkeley had four children: Robert his son and heir, William, Margaret and Elizabeth. We have found but little information concerning them. Through their father's misconduct they have passed out of sight.

William Poyntz was placed in the entail of the manor of Alderley at the settlement of the estates as seen in the chancery proceedings, *Poyntz v. Berkeley*, before cited. He died without issue.

What became of the daughters of Sir Nicholas Poyntz we know not. If not married they must have been left destitute on their father's death, indeed must have been in that condition long before.

Robert Poyntz, as we have seen, was associated with his father in his misdoings. By indentures dated 15th May, 1618, Robert Poyntz, described of Wotton-under-Edge, gent., son of Sir Nicholas Poyntz, knt., being seized of the farm of Simondshall, &c., mortgaged it to Sir William Harman, knt., for thirteen years, who let the same to one Richard Green.² In August 1613, we find Robert Poyntz had become bound to one Thomas Daunt, gent., deceased, for £10, and John Daunt, gent., executor, sues him.

Under the description of Robert Poyntz of Wotton-under-Edge, Esq., he also became bound in a bond for £20 to Robert Smyth for a payment of £12. This arose in certain transactions about the sale of a house. Robert Smyth in answer pleaded that Robert Poyntz, by the name of Robert Poyntz, gent, standeth out-lawed at the sute of John Doughtie and others, as by the same writ of outlawry under seal annexed may appear, and he conceiveth he is not bound to any other answer and prayeth to be dismissed.³ We have no further information concerning him and believe he died abroad without issue. Thus ended the line of Poyntz of Alderley!

¹ Inq. p. m. 16th Chas. I. Wards and Liveries, Bundle 36, No. 63.

² Chancery Proceedings, *Poyntz v. Green*, Bundle 18, No. 29.

³ Bills and Answers, Charles I. *Poyntz v. Smyth*. Bundle 77, No. 50.

PEDIGREE OF POYNTZ OF ALDERLEY.

TABLE V.

(Continued from page 95.)

Elizabeth, dau. of Sir Matthew Brown of Betchworth Castle, co. Surrey, Kt., by Frideswide, dau. of Sir Richard Guildford, K. G., of Hempsted, co. Kent, 1 wife.

John Poyntz of Alderley, co. Glouc. Died 29 Nov. 1544. Inq. p.m. 29 Nov. 1544. Exch. Will dated 1 and cod. 7 June 1543. Prob. 7 Dec. following (19 Pynning), names his sons, Henry (imbecile), Matthew, Robert, and William, and his three daughters.

Margaret, dau. of Nicholas Saunders of Charlewood, co. Surrey, remarried James Skynner of Reigate as his 3rd wife. Will dated 22 Sep. 1563. Prob. 4 July 1564 (22 Stevenson), names all her children by John Poyntz.

Henry Poyntz, eldest son, imbecile, aged 16 years on his father's death. Died s.p.

Robert Poyntz, scholar of Winchester, Fellow of New Coll., Oxon, 26 Aug. 1554, B.A. 5 June 1556, M.A. 1560, living 1568, then about to proceed to the Holy Land.

Alice, mar. before 1563 John Skynner of Reigate, who died 19 May 1584. She remarried Sir Thomas Palmer and died before 1606.

Frideswide, named in her father's will. Probably died unmarried.

William Poyntz of Woodhatch, Reigate. See Table VII.

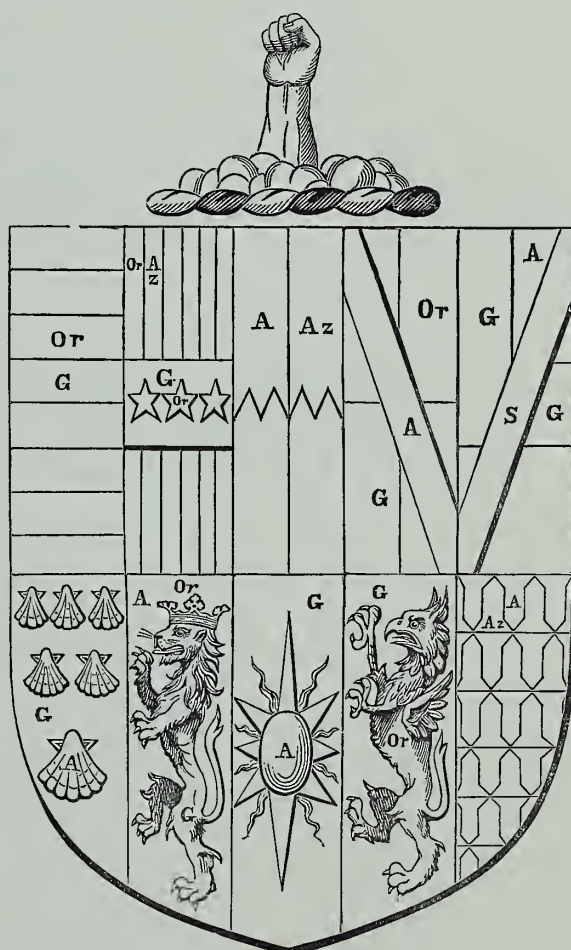
Elizabeth, mar.¹ 9 June 1560 George Elyot, citizen of London.

Elizabeth* = Matthew Poyntz of Alderley, mar. 1st wife, living in 1606, when she presented to Alderley.

Matthew Poyntz of Alderley, mar. 1st wife, living in 1606, when she presented to Alderley, named his children and others marked thus *

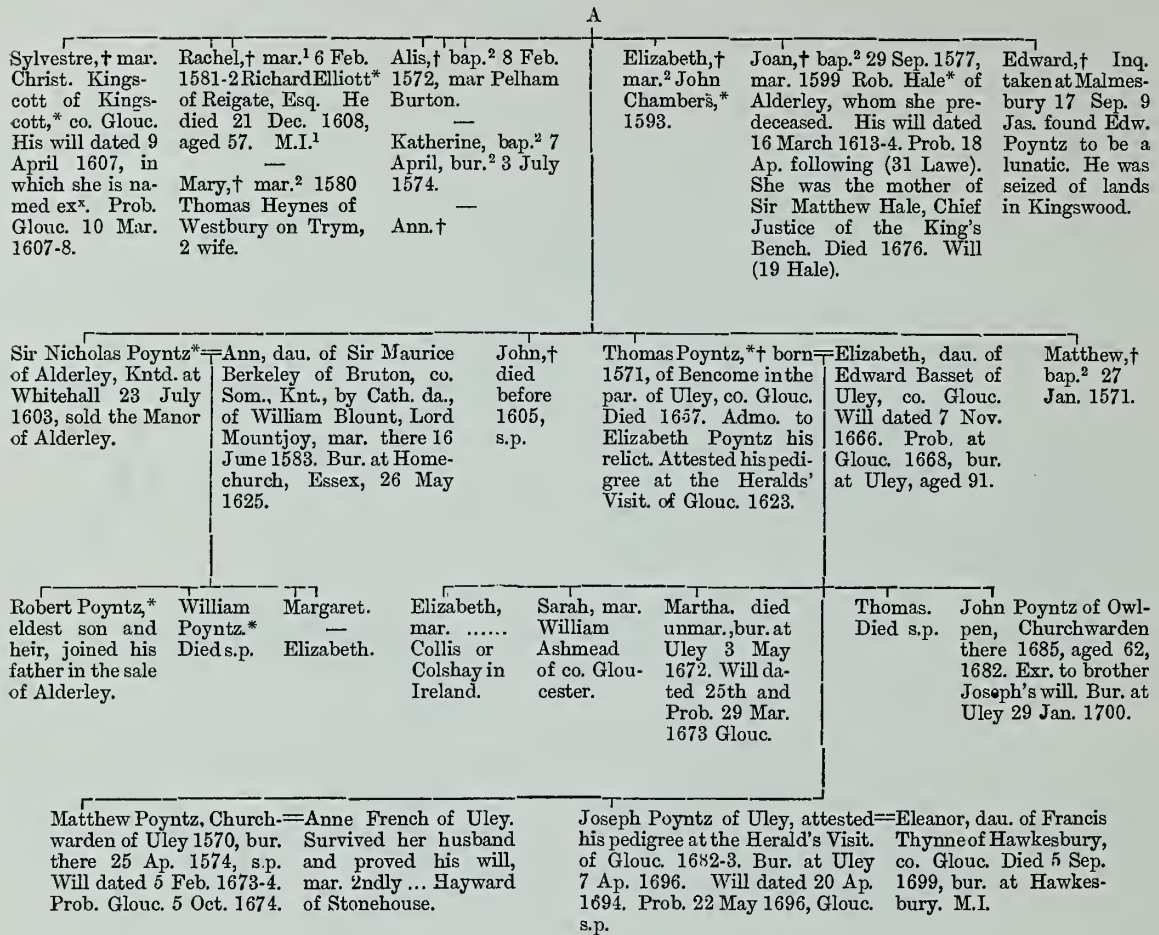
Winifred, dau. of William Wild of Camberwell, co. Surrey. Bur.² 30 June 1578. M.I. She was his wife 24 years and bare him 15 children, of whom those marked thus † survived her.

A



For quarterings, see ante, page 94.

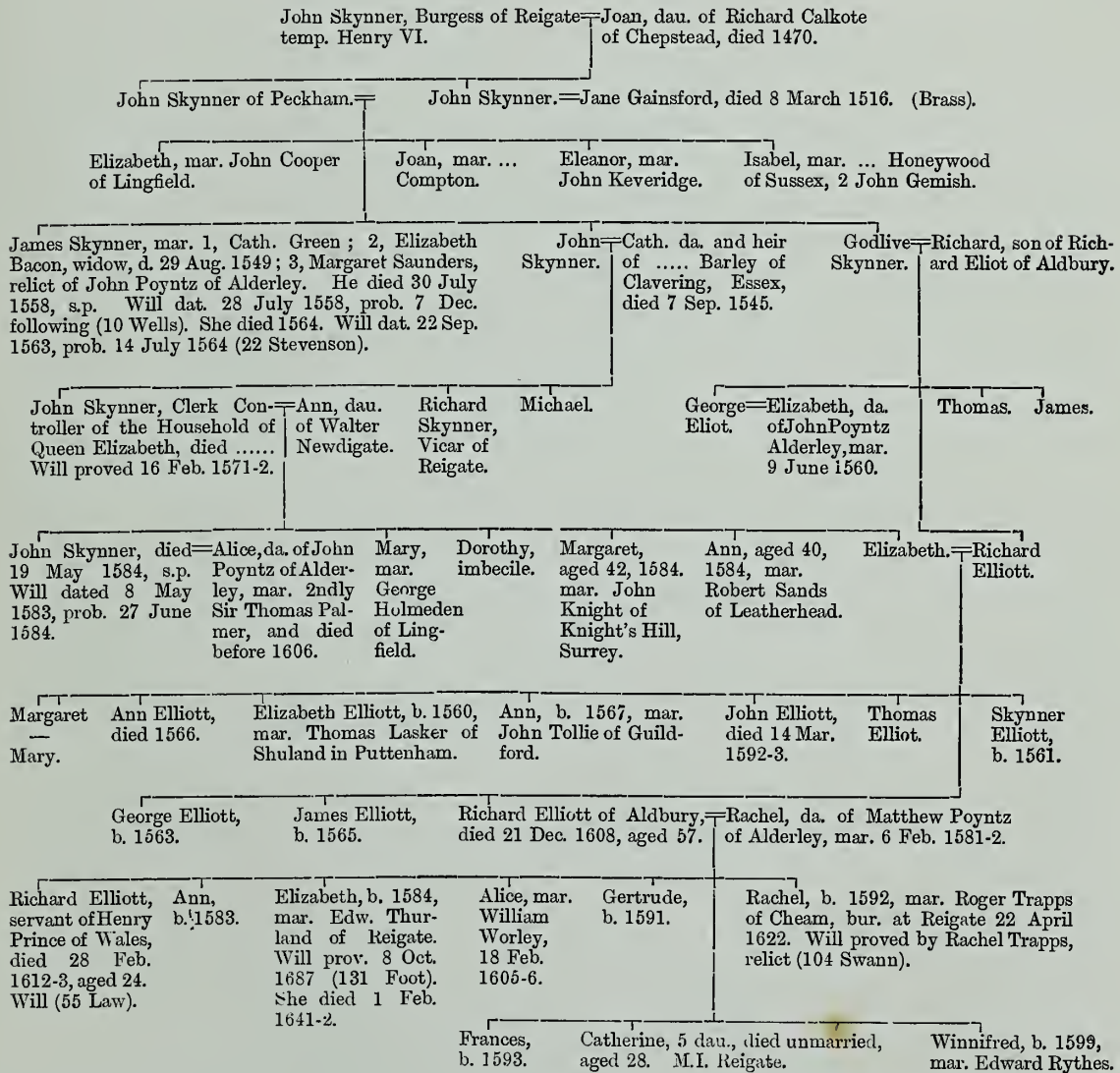
¹ At Reigate.² At Alderley.

¹ At Reigate² At Alderley.

PEDIGREE OF SKYNNER OF REIGATE.

SHEWING ITS CONNECTION WITH POYNTZ OF ALDERLEY.

TABLE VI.



CHAPTER V.

POYNTZ OF REIGATE, CO. SURREY, AND MELLS AND NUNNEY, CO. SOMERSET.

This branch of the family, of which representatives in the male line still exist, was founded by William Poyntz, second son of John Poyntz of Alderley, by Margaret Saunders his second wife (see ante, p. 117). He married at Reigate, co. Surrey, on 23rd May, 1569, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Newdigate of Wivelsfield, in the county of Sussex, and settled at Woodhatch, in Reigate, so called from the gate or hatch which led into the great commons, or wood, still called "Earlswood," formerly parcel of the possessions of the Earl Warrenne. On the north side of the entrance to the common is the messuage and land called "The Hatch," which was the property of John Skynner of Reigate, who, we have seen, (ante p. 117) married Alice sister of William Poyntz, and it was occupied by the said William and Elizabeth his wife from the time of their marriage, the said Elizabeth being cousin germain to the said John Skynner, as is shewn by his will dated 8th May, 25th Eliz. (1583) by which he devised to his "loving brother in law William Poyntz and to Elizabeth his wyfe, my kyneswoman, for the term of their lyves and the longest lyver of them, all that my messuage or tenement, lot, &c., in the parish of Reygate, called Woodhatch, wherein the said William and Elizabeth now inhabit and dwell together, with all its appurtenances," together with divers other lands and tenements, particularly described in the will, and after their decease remainder to "John Poyntz, sone and heire of the said William and Elizabeth, my godson, and to his heirs lawfully begotten; in default of such issue remainder to Richard Ellyot, my eldest sister's son." He appointed Alice his wife executrix, who proved his will on 27th June, 1584.¹ William Poyntz also acquired from John Skynner the manor and advowson of Chipstead in the county of Surrey, for doing which without the royal licence, it being held of the king in capite, he was granted a pardon on 27th November, 1589.²

William Poyntz died in 1601 intestate, and administration of his effects was granted, on 25th April in that year, to Elizabeth Poyntz his relict. She made

¹ P.C.C. (7 Watson).

² Rot. Pat. 32nd Elizab. Part 16.

her will on the 5th May following in which she bequeathed to her daughter Elizabeth Poyntz £200 to be paid her by John Poyntz, testator's son, out of certain lands in Sussex, at the church porch of Reygate, within four months after her decease. Gives to Helen, daughter of her said son John, £300 at the age of 16 years. Residue to the said John whom she makes executor, and he proved the will 17th June, 1604.¹

By his wife, Elizabeth Newdigate, William Poyntz left seven children, one son, John, and six daughters. Of the daughters we need not do more than to refer to the tabular pedigree annexed.

John Poyntz, only son of William Poyntz, was baptized at Reigate in 1577, and in 1598 married there Anne, one of the daughters of John Sydenham, then described as late of Nympsfield in co. Gloucester, Esq., by his second wife Mary Poyntz daughter of Sir Nicholas Poyntz of Iron Acton (see ante p. 96). John Poyntz and Anne his wife were therefore first cousins, but they seem not to have lived happily together.

John Poyntz succeeded to Woodhatch, the manor and advowson of Chipstead, and the other Skynner estates on his mother's death in 1604, and on 18th Dec., 1611, presented one John Hampden, D.D. to the benefice of Chipstead. Soon after this serious differences arose between John Poyntz and his wife, inasmuch as before 1613 the said Anne obtained a divorce from him. With the nature of these differences we are not acquainted, but it would seem that the husband was the guilty party. We gather from depositions in Chancery, made on 20th April, 1624, that the said John and Anne, being possessed for a certain term of 80 years, in right of the said Anne, of and in a capital messuage of the manor of Nympsfield, and of certain lands thereunto belonging, by Indentures dated 11th Nov. 7th James (1609) granted the same to one William Smith of Nympsfield during the remainder of the said term, reserving the annual rent of £43 2s., besides the rent of £5 per annum reserved upon the original lease; and by an Indenture dated 31st Oct. 11th James (1613) for the causes and considerations therein contained, (which are not stated in the deposition) and for the better preferment and maintenance of the said Anne, the said John Poyntz assigned unto William Swift late of Bristowe, gent, and Philip Shephard late of Whetenhurst, co. Glouc., and their executors, the sum of £40, parcel of the aforesaid yearly rent of £43 2s., for the maintenance and benefit of the said Anne from and after the feast of Michaelmas then last past for the term of 40 years if she should so long live.

¹ P.C.C. (58 Montague).

Anne Poyntz in her petition to the court of Chancery in 1624 alleges that both William Swift and Philip Shephard were then deceased, and that the said rent of £40 had devolved upon William Shephard, the son and sole executor of the abovementioned Philip, upon the same trust for the use and benefit of her the said Anne, and she complains that having required of the said William Shephard for the better performance of the said trust, to make an assignment of the same to one Thomas Smith of Totnes, co. Devon, gent., for her use, he had refused to do so, and she prays for an order of the Court to compel him to make such assignment.

William Shephard upon his subpoena admits all the facts as alleged, and says he has refused to make the assignment requested and still doth refuse without an order of the Court, but that upon such order he is willing to discharge himself of the said Indenture and of his trust.¹ We do not know what the decree in the case was, but doubtless the arrangement was carried out. Ann Poyntz was at this time residing at Totnes, and was naturally desirous that her trustee should dwell near her.

In a letter, without date, addressed to Edward Alleyn, the Founder of Dulwich Hospital,² Anne Poyntz asks him for a loan of £5 and begs that he will help her concerning her unkind husband.

In 1607 John Poyntz is described in the parish register of Reigate as one of the marshals unto the King, it would seem to have been soon after this that he fell into bad courses. He was divorced from his wife before Oct. 1613. On 5th Nov. 1615, under the description of John Poyntz of Woodhatch, Esq., in consideration of a certain sum of money he conveyed to Henry Hutton, gent,

¹ Chancery Bills and Answers, *Sydenham v. Sheppard*. Bundle 25, No. 39.

² There would appear to have been some degree of intimacy existing between this branch of the Poyntz family and Mr. Alleyn. John Poyntz would seem to have employed him to repair a lute or to get it repaired. Mr. J. Payne Collier in his *Memoirs of Edward Alleyn* prints the following letter—

“Good Mr. Alleyn, deliver my lute unto the bearer whoe will convaye it unto me, and looke, what it comes two the mendynge—I shall not be longe from London, and then God willinge, I will defraye it, with manie thanks, and so in haste do rest

Your verie loveinge friend

J. POYNTZ.

Woodhatch, this vth of Marche, 1605.

Mr. Allen dwells harde by the Clynke by the back syde, neare Wynchester howse where you must deliver this note.”

Collier adds in a note, “Alleyn in his diary from 1617-1622 mentions several entries of money paid for lute-strings. When he died he left behind him ‘a lute,’ ‘a pandora,’ ‘a lythem,’ and ‘six vyols.’ He was fond of music, entertained singers at his table, bought an organ for his chapel, and went to a considerable expense for a music room.”

and William Dodd of London, all that messuage, &c., in Reigate, Surrey, and divers other lands in Reigate and Horley; and on the 29th of the same month for the sum of £400, he sells to Elizabeth Bannister of Newington, Surrey, daughter of John Bannister, deceased, lands and tenements, &c., in Horley, Laylands, Gawyns, &c., being the whole of the lands he inherited from John Skinner.¹ These conveyances were probably by way of mortgage, for by Indentures dated 20th Oct. 1617, made between the said John Poyntz of the one part and John Cade of London, gent., and Mary his wife of the other part, the said John Poyntz in consideration of the sum of £1000 to him paid by the same John and Mary, conveys to them his messuage or mansion house called Woodhatch and divers other freehold lands in Reigate and elsewhere, to which the said John Poyntz hath a good, absolute, and lawful estate of inheritance in fee simple without any condition or contingency in the same.

We cannot glean any further information concerning John Poyntz. He appears to have sold all his property and probably died soon after this date, though he was now only 50 years of age. It is however not unlikely that he was the John Pöntes who was "living in Virginia in James Town (city) and with the Corporation thereof" whose name is given in the index as Poyntz in Hotten's list of Apprentices and Emigrants, &c.

The discrepancies between the list of the children of John Poyntz of Reigate and Anne Sydenham his wife as given by Aubrey,² and the baptisms recorded in the Reigate registers are so great that it becomes very difficult to reconcile them. The following is the list given by Aubrey:—1, James, killed in Holland; 2, William a captain, married a French woman; 3, John; 4, Susan, married William Foxley of Northants; 5, Sir Denham, a sergeant-major under the Emperor, married Anne Eleanor de Count Stephanus de Casy in Wurtemberg; 6, Francis; 7, Thomas; 8, John; 9, Charles; 10, Frances; 11, Mary; and 12, Sarah. Seven children only, however, were baptised at Reigate, and these do not agree either in their names or order of seniority with Aubrey's list. John Poyntz and Anne Sydenham were married on the 27th July, 1598, at Reigate, and the first baptism we find recorded in the Reigate registers is that of John on the 5th March, 1600; 2, James, 8th September, 1601; 3, John, 17th Sept., 1606; 4, Sydenham, 3rd Nov., 1607; 5, Newdigate, 16th Nov., 1608; 6, Frances, 3rd Dec., 1609; and before all these we must place Helen, whose baptism is not recorded at Reigate, but she is given by her grandmother's will, dated 5th May in 1601, a legacy of £300 to be paid at the age of 16. She must,

¹ Rot. Claus. 13th James, Part 40.

² History of Surrey, Vol. iv., 212, 213.

therefore, have been born in 1599, as the first issue of the marriage; and this marriage, as stated above, was dissolved before 31th Oct., 1613.¹ It will be observed that the baptisms are annual from 1600 to 1609 with the exception of a gap between Sept., 1601, and Sept., 1606, and if the births were as regular during this period as throughout, four children might have been born within it, and William was undoubtedly one of them, and perhaps also Susan, of whose existence we have certain evidence; and, unquestionably, William was senior to the second John as we shall see presently. The elder John must have died in his infancy. Of "Sir *Denham* Poyntz" we know nothing, and conceive he must have been identical with Sir Sydenham, who, as Denham is represented to have done, served and took high rank in the Imperial army, and both married foreign wives, the only difficulty being that Sir Sydenham's wife was named "Elizabeth," and the supposed Sir Denham's "Ann Eleanor." The whole of the entry would, however, to us, appear to have been misread. At the time of the proceedings in Chancery in the case of *Poyntz v. Golden*, which unfortunately are very imperfect and bear no date, but are later than 1625, probably about 1630, only five of the children of John and Anne Poyntz remained alive, inclusive of Sydenham, then wrongly supposed to be dead, of whom John, William, and Newdigate were three, and probably Susan, who died in childbed in 1633 as the wife of Richard Foxley, the fourth. By the misconduct of their father these children seem to have been left to their own resources to make their position in the world.

William Poyntz at the time of the taking of these proceedings was evidently the representative of the family and he sued one Katherine Golden, widow, to recover the sum £50 which had been paid to her deceased husband upon the apprenticeship of his brother Sydenham, and he affirms, upon oath, that "the reason that he had not claimed payment at the time the sum became due by the condition of the bond was that he was then in the West Indies, Commander of a ship of the Right Hon'ble Earl of Warwick, and a little before in H. Majesty's service in the isle of Rè (1628) in France, and before that in H. M's service at Cales (1626) in the kingdom of Spayne, and before that in the service of the Lords of the States in the Netherlands, on behalf of our late deceased Sovereign Lord King James of famous memorie, with the Right Hon'ble Lord Robert Earl of Essex, and long before that in the Palatinate at the battle of Prague in the service of the Queen of Bohemia (1620), and therefore that he had neither tyme, occasion, or opportunity to make any legall

¹ Chanc. Proc. James I. Bundle 25. No. 39.

demand of the £50 of William Golden." This statement accounts for ten years of his life in active employment, to which we may add that on the 22nd October 1628, he, in conjunction with other persons, brought charges against one Robert Odierne of the "Peter of London," one of the Rochelle fleet, of having declared that he wished the Queen hanged, and also of his having misconducted himself towards the soldiers on board his ship.¹ Aubrey states that he married a French woman, but we do not find any mention of her nor of him subsequent to the suit referred to, and suppose he died soon after without issue.

John the third son of John Poyntz and Anne Sydenham upon the death of William became the representative of this branch of the family. He was born, as stated above, in 1606. It is alleged by Major William Henry Poyntz, now (1885) Chief Constable of the county of Essex, that his brother Stephen Edward Poyntz now residing in New Zealand is the direct representative of this John Poyntz, and consequently of the senior existing branch of the family of Poyntz in the male line, and the same claim is made by other members of this branch of the family who have given great attention to the subject, and they allege that this their ancestor entered the navy, and that he was identical with the John Poyntz who wrote on the 15th Nov. 1656 to the Council of State concerning the inclination of divers persons to remove from Nevis and other parts in America to Jamaica. The letter was referred to the Committee of Council for the affairs of Jamaica to consider how the transplanting of persons from Mevis (*sic*), St. Christophers, New England, or any other of the English plantations in America to Jamaica may be managed with most conveniency and advantage to the service of that plantation, and particularly to take into consideration the said letter and to report their opinion to the council.²

We do not know what was the nature of the report of the Committee, but conclude it was favourable to Capt. Poyntz's scheme. On the 20th April following Capt. William Whitehorne, from on board the "Essex" in the Downs, writes to the Commissioners of the Admiralty saying, "Captain Poyntz having come down I have sent Capt. Littlejohn up to you," and announces other arrangements as if he were fitting out an expedition; and on the 5th March, 1656-7, Capt. Poyntz writes from Plymouth Sound stating that his was one of the seven ships which sailed from Jamaica under Capt. Robert Martin, Commander-in-chief, and expresses a hope that the others have arrived safely, as

¹ State Papers Dom., Vol. cxix. 13.

² Council of State Order Book, T. 77. p. 496. (17).

they were scattered by the winds; his ship, the "May-fly" was forced in, and he makes the statement embodied in the following certificate:—

"I certify upon honour of our bringing 1500 Planters, men, women and children, with the governor of Mevis himself and family, they being settled at present about the port of Morento. Lieut. General Brayne arrived at Jamaica harbour about the 10th Dec^r. The Victuallers were gone before him and after him. He doth appear to be very active and things do promise well there."¹

In November 1657 we find an intimation that in conjunction with Capt. Spatchurst they surprised and captured the Dutch ship "Fame," carrying Spanish passengers.²

We have further the following characteristic letters from him, addressed to the Commissioners of the Admiralty:—

Right Hon^{ble}.

After my safe arrival according to ord^{rs} into Portsmouth Harbour with the frigatt imposed to my charge I thought it my reasonable duty to acquaint y^r Hon^{rs} of the same, and at my arrival in the sayd frigett on the thirteenth day last past. I understand y^r Hon^{rs} have ordered the Master of Attendance here to fitt y^e sayd frigatt sudaynly for the sea. Whereupon, M^r. Tippet the M^r. Builder hath this day ordered the speedy dispatch of y^e fitting of her according to y^r Hon^{rs} order. And also I and my Company under my charge shal not be wanting in the following y^r Hon^{rs} commands. So hoping y^r Hon^{rs} will be pleased to pardon my not wrighting unto y^r Hon^{rs} till now Even so with my carvice presented to y^r Hon^{rs} I remayn my Nation's subject to y^r Hon^{rs} servant to command

JOHN POYNTZ.

From on board y^e Providence in Portsmouth harbour y^e 15 of February 1657-8.³

He writes again to the Commissioners of the Navy some months afterwards:—
Right Worship^{fuls}

Having from tyme to tyme expectted that the frigatt now under my comand should a cum in to & Beene payd offe I therefore thought good to acquaint yo^r Worships how I have omited my duty in not acquainting y^r Worships of monneys that I receaved for an anker that was ordered by a Counsell of Warr to spare to a merchant man in y^e River of Lisbone which was ordered by warrant from Admiral Joⁿ Stoakes for me to receave and so give yo^r Worships. An account of which I thought to a dun long befoar now; but when the Lord will bee pleased to give me leave to waite upon your worships then I shall deliver y^e sayd charge up; thus judging it my responsable dutye to acquaint yo^r Worships of,

I remayne yo^r Humble Servant to Comand

JOHN POYNTZ.

Providence Frigatt Callis Road this 22 of June 1658.

¹ State Papers, Vol. cliv. No. 99, and State Papers Dom., Admiralty Papers, Vol. 163, 24.

² State Papers Dom. Vol. clvii. No. 163.

³ State Papers Dom., Admiralty Papers, Vol. 188, p. 88.

We do not find anything more concerning him for some time, but he was doubtless the same Captain John Poyntz who, on the 14th Nov. 1664, wrote to Samuel Pepys reporting that he has pressed one hundred and forty men into the "Maryland," many of whom had run away, and he requests payment of £18 which he had borrowed for the expense of conveying, keeping, and maintenance of the pressed men.¹

In a collection of papers in the British Museum relative to the Mastership of the Revels we find a printed form, filled up in manuscript,² in which it is stated that by virtue of his Majesty's letters patent John Lloyd, gent., had been appointed Clerk Comptroller of the Revels in England and elsewhere, and that he had assigned the said place unto John Poyntz by deputation, and that he the said John Poyntz had examined, enrolled, and approved of Thomas Rogers of the parish of Whitechape to make use of one shovelboard, and no other, for the moderate exercise and recreation of civill persons, such as the statute laws allowed, for one whole year. The license is dated 15th Charles II. (1663), but the precise date is not filled in.

It is very curious to note that for this trivial game, not yet entirely gone out of use, a royal licence was required. John Poyntz would appear from another document to have held the office of Clerk and Clerk Controller conjointly with one Edward Hayward, both under Sir Henry Herbert, Knt., who we presume was the Controller. On 23rd July, 1663, Hayward and Poyntz jointly give instructions to Edward Thomas, one of the messengers belonging to H. M. Office of Revels: "To repair to the city of London or Bristol (the ffaires approaching) and acquaint the Maior of the said citie with H. M's grants to us, and the Lord Chamberlain's mandate, touching musick, cockfighting, maskings, prizes, stage-players, tumblers, vaulters, dancers on the ropes, such as act, set forth, shew, or present any play, shew, motion, feats of activity, or sights whatsoever, as also the authority you have from this office; Having found the master, or chief person of each company, to demand his Commission under the seal of this office."

Mr. Hayward and his colleague had some mighty quarrel, for only a few days after this date (July 28th) Mr. Hayward writes to Sir H. Herbert at Ribsford, near Bewdley, co. Worcester, enclosing a list of queries, and begging Sir Henry to note his resolution against each particular in the margin, and to return it by the first safe opportunity, for till then, I resolve not to close with Captain Poyntz, but to keep my distance as I have done hitherto, and to

¹ State Papers, Dom., Ch. II. Vol. civ. No. 98.

² Addl. MSS. 19,256, fo. 319-529.

preserve the reputation of the matter in myself. Among these queries are the following:—

4. To be informed what allowances Captain Poyntz can, by ancient or modern custom, demand, as Clerk Comptroller and Clerk, over and above the rates and fees set down by Sir Henry Herbert as the master's fees, and what Captain Poyntz his duties is (*sic*) as to such demands, and what the opinion of the Council hath beene at the close of the contests between Sir Henry and him.

9. To enquire whether Sir Henry did not, as a branch of his office, sometymes lycence Billiards, Tables, Nine pins, &c., and what fees he usually tooke for the same.

14. To know if I have not the privilege of a Box in each playhouse, being told that Sir Henry had one at command, when he pleased for himself and friends.

15. To be informed, whether Capt. Poyntz has the like or any privilege at all, as Clerk Comptroller and Clerk, because he affirmes soe much in many respects and resolves to contend for them.

16. To know whether cockfighting belongs not the master of the Revells.

17. To propound unto Sir Henry the willingness of Captain Poyntz (that all differences may be buried in oblivion) to give a general release to Sir Henry, and the like, if desired, from Sir Henry to him.

On 15th August Captain Poyntz writes from London to Sir Henry Herbert relative to the fees of his office. He states that "on Tuesday last I was summoned before His Majesty and Councell by Sir Richard Hubbard, who accused me with officiating in His Majesty's Office of the Revells and Licencing games to his great prejudice. To which I pleaded, this Right did belong to your Pattent—Whereupon His Majesty being present did command, that neither Sir R. Hubbard nor your Deputy should licence any manner of games for the future. Mr. Hayward, not being summoned as I was, did not appear, wherfore I was very jealous he will lose that branch of your Pattent for want of pleading. Therefore I beseech you, stand in the gapp, and use some means by letters to the Lord Chamberlain, who is your Worship's great friend in this case, and he is displeased with Sir R. Hubbard for bringing the matter before the Councell, that he is only judge of the law excepted. I verie much feare, wee shall be much streightened in paying the yearely sallary to you excepte you helpe us in this matter.

One favour more I begg of you, that you would obliterate all differences and provocations that I have given you, and that your Worship may be pleased to send me the heads of every officer's duty, &c.

I remain your dutifull, humble and obliged servant to command to my power till death separates.

J. POYNTZ."

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Poyntz". The letters are fluidly connected, with a prominent loop at the end of the "z".

Letter to Commissioners of the Navy, 5th March, 1656-7.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Poyntz". The style is similar to the first signature, with a large initial "J" and a decorative flourish at the end.

Letter to Commissioners of the Navy, 22nd June, 1658.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Poyntz". The initial "P" is very large and ornate, with the rest of the name following in a fluid cursive hand.

Letter to Sir Henry Herbert, 16th August, 1664.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Poyntz". The signature is written in a bold, fluid cursive hand, with a large initial "P".

Letter to Samuel Pepys, Esq. 14th November, 1664.

We do not know how this misunderstanding ended, but we conclude that Captain Poyntz still held his office. Pepys writes in his Diary under the 20th September in the following year:—

“Met Captain Poyntz, who hath some place, or title to a place, belonging to gameing. I discoursed with him about our business of improving of the Lotterys, for the King’s benefit, and that of the Fishery, and had some light from him in the business.”¹

There are other memoranda relative to the office of the Master of the Revels in the additional MSS. cited above, but we have gone sufficiently into the subject, not only as regards Capt. Poyntz, but as illustrative of the manners of the time. From the captious temper indicated by Captain Poyntz we had come to the conclusion that he was the same Captain John Poyntz of whom we have formerly treated (*ante* p. 86), but the signatures appended to the letters addressed to the Commissioners of the Navy, to Pepys, and to Sir Henry Herbert, on comparison so closely resemble each other as to shew they were all written by the same person. (See plate III.)

The members of the branch of the family of Poyntz of which we are now writing prove their descent from a certain Richard Poyntz, an eminent and wealthy clothier at Mells in Somersetshire, who, it is said, drove a coach and six horses, a great mark of dignity in his day! In the year 1842 Stephen Poyntz of Havant and Bedhampton, both in the county of Southampton, Admiral of the Blue, applied to the Heralds’ College for a grant of honourable augmentation to his family arms to commemorate his naval services. The College, on that occasion, refused to allow to him the pure coat of Poyntz, *Barry of eight Or and Gules*, on the ground that he had not proved his descent from any branch of the family to whom that coat had been allowed, though he produced old seals charged with the same arms which had been used in his family for several descents. The College therefore made him a grant of the barry coat within a bordure wavy as a difference, and an honorary augmentation upon a chief wavy, which we will treat of more fully in its proper place. A tradition has existed in the family that the said Richard Poyntz’s father was named John, and recently by means of an advertisement the register of the baptism of Richard Poyntz has been discovered in the parish of St. Peter’s at Shaftesbury in co. Dorset.

“An^o Dom. 1640. Richard son of John Poyntz was baptised 8th July.”

There is however, so far, no direct evidence to shew that the Capt. John Poyntz of the navy was identical with John the son of John Poyntz of Reigate (born 1606,) or with the John Poyntz of Shaftesbury the father of

¹ Diary of Samuel Pepys, Vol. ii, page 168.

Richard, or, indeed, that the Richard Poyntz there baptized was identical with Richard of Mells, though their ages very well accord. John son of John Poyntz of Reigate was, we have seen, baptized in 1606, and consequently he would be 34 years old when Richard Poyntz was baptized.

In these circumstances the family have to rely upon indirect evidence. The questionable points stated above must be taken for granted, and to state the matter clearly reference must be had to the pedigree below. It will be borne in mind that John Poyntz of Reigate (son of William Poyntz and Elizabeth Newdigate his wife), by Anne Sydenham his wife, had several sons. Among them John, Newdigate, and Sydenham, so called to commemorate the families of their mother and grandmother. John and Newdigate both left issue. We have noticed the tradition that Richard's father was called John. There was another tradition that the descendants of Richard were the elder branch, as they would be if derived from John (born 1606) the elder surviving son of John Poyntz of Reigate.

These traditions are confirmed by a letter discovered (by the Rev. H. L. Thompson, Rector at Iron Acton) among the Poyntz papers in the possession of Earl Spencer. The writer of the letter was William Poyntz, Treasurer of the Excise, grandson of Newdigate, and great grandson of John Poyntz of Reigate. It is addressed to his brother, the Right Hon. Stephen Poyntz, and is dated December, 1727. The passage referred to is as follows:—"I have lately found out one Mr. Wm. Poyntz, an attorney, son to our great uncle, Richard Poyntz, who was our grandfather's youngest brother, & a famous Clothier at Mell, in Somersetshire, near [one word gone] where his eldest son, Richard, is now living, & follows the same business. This uncle of ours died not many years ago, about my Father's age, as his son Wm. is about mine, by which I judge that our great grandfather died long before our grandfather was killed,¹ between the years 1640 & 1645 . . . My namesake the Attorney came to London very young, so can give no account of his ancestors, more than that his grandfather, our great grandfather, had a place at Court, he thinks *at the Green Cloth*."

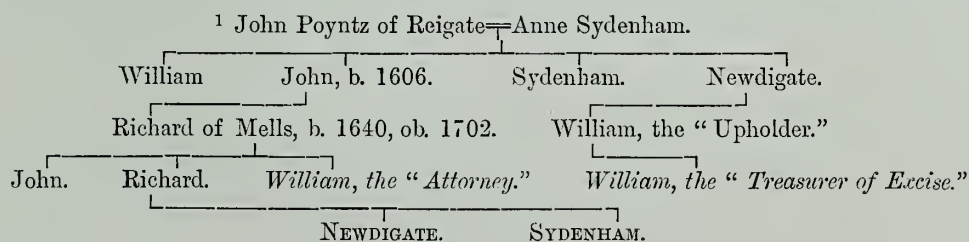
There is a slight confusion in this letter from the fact that father and son bore the same name. John Poyntz, of Reigate, and his eldest son, John, (the alleged father of Richard) are mistaken the one for the other. The nett result, however, is unaffected by this mistake; and we have the undoubted fact that the grandson of Newdigate, and the son of Richard (see pedigree below)

¹ Newdigate Poyntz of Benefield, who was slain at Gainsborough 5 Aug., 1643. See post.

recognised each other as second cousins. Now it seems very improbable that two men of mature age and competent education, the one a Treasurer of the Excise, the other an Attorney, when talking with each other face to face, could have been mistaken as to the fact of their near relationship. It is the more remarkable when we remember that they had the two uncommon names SYDENHAM and NEWDIGATE to guide them, and that these names were borne not only by the two sons of John of Reigate, their common ancestor, but also by *two of the nephews* (see pedigree below¹) of this very William, the attorney, the son of Richard of Mells. Indeed the very terms of the letter imply that these two men were acquainted, in the main, with the steps of their common descent. Moreover, the recognition, described in this letter, was *acted upon*, in both lines of cousins, (viz., the descendants of Richard, and the descendants of Newdigate) for a hundred years afterwards. Thus we find a box containing legal documents, the property of the above "William, the attorney," the son of Richard, in the possession of Newdigate's great-grandson, William Poyntz of Midgham, as late as 1799. A letter from this same William Poyntz to James Poyntz, great-grandson of Richard, relating to this box, is signed, "your humble servant, and KINSMAN": and his daughter, Lady Cork, was godmother to two grandsons of the same James Poyntz. Moreover, there exists a multitude of letters implying a close intimacy between Admiral Poyntz (the son of the above James) and the parallel line of cousins, the descendants of Newdigate; so that we may say that the recognition of kindred between the son of Richard, and the grandson of Newdigate, described in the above letter, is confirmed by a number of facts (implying that relationship) in subsequent years.

These facts are very remarkable, and in the absence of any direct proof upon the questions above raised, from the very strong secondary evidence of the descent claimed, and looking at the whole case and the continued use down to the present time of the unusual christian names of Sydenham and Newdigate, when there does not appear to have been any special object in view, leads us to admit the very great probability of the justice of the claim and dispense with more perfect proof.

We have no further information relative to Captain John Poyntz, and know



not the date of his death or place of burial. He probably died in the West Indies or in Virginia.

Richard Poyntz, son of John Poyntz and Anne Sydenham, baptized at and Shaftesbury, 8th July, 1640, married Elizabeth, daughter of . . . Benfield, niece of the Rev. R. Flower, rector of Siston, co. Gloucester, by Joane, his wife, sister of the said Richard Flower.

In his will, dated in 1687, he desires to be buried in the chancel of the church of Siston near his wife and children. He names his sister Joan Benfield, and her daughter Elizabeth, wife of Richard Poyntz.¹

Richard Poyntz settled in Mells as a clothier. In 1688 he obtained the lease of a house there, belonging to the Rectory, to hold to him the said Richard Poyntz for the term of his life, with remainder to his sons Richard and William Poyntz. He is described in the rate books² as Richard Poyntz, Esq., and, as we have before stated, is said to have been very wealthy, and to have driven his coach and six horses! He died at Mells intestate, and was buried there on 2nd October, 1702. Administration of his effects was granted at Wells, on 3rd May, 1702, to Elizabeth Poyntz his relict, and William Poyntz and Richard Poyntz his two surviving sons. The inventory shows his personal estate to have been of very small value, the total amount of the appraisement being only £57 10s. Among the articles enumerated in the schedule are one "Yotting stone,"³ and one "Which" valued together at 14s.

By his wife, Elizabeth Benfield, Richard Poyntz, besides a daughter Frances, had three sons, of whom John, the elder, died unmarried in the same month as his father, and Richard, the next son, jointly with his mother, carried on the clothing business at Mells. We find them assessed together in the rate books of the parish down to 1709. Richard's wife's name was Ann, but we know not of what family she was. By her he had two sons, Newdigate and Sydenham, and five daughters, all of whom were married. For further particulars it will suffice to refer to the tabular pedigree post.

Richard Poyntz, in his will, dated 9th June, 1758, describes himself "of Mells, clothier." He names therein his daughters Frances Cullimore, Jane Wallin, Betty Hodges, Grace Durbin, and Alice Bainton; his grandchildren Alice and Mary Bainton, and his grandson Newdigate Poyntz. Makes his son, Newdigate

¹ Prob., 19th Sept., 1687, P. C. C. (122, Foot).

² Rectory Deeds, Mells.

³ Yotting stone = a stone vat for brewing, from yote = to pour in. *Grose* has Yotted = watered; *Weber*, Yoten = cask.

Poyntz, executor and residuary legatee, who proved the will 25th April, 1795.¹

Newdigate Poyntz, just mentioned, was of Nunney, co. Somerset, where he died intestate, and was buried on the 15th January, 1740-1. Administration of his goods and credits was granted to John Smith, principal creditor, on 8th September, 1742, Elizabeth Poyntz, widow, relict of the deceased and curatrix (guardian) lawfully assigned to John Poyntz, a minor, and to Ann, Mary, and Newdigate Poyntz infants, natural, lawful and only children of the said deceased, having first renounced.² Elizabeth Poyntz, the relict, survived to 1762, on the 31st May, in which year she was buried at Nunney, having made her will on the 11th July preceding, in which she names her son, Newdigate Poyntz, and her daughter, Mary Poyntz, and appoints the latter her executrix, who proved her will on the 16th June following.³

Sydenham Poyntz, youngest son of Richard Poyntz, junr., of Mells, was of Midsomer Norton, co. Somerset. The Rev. W. Morrison writes on 23rd April, 1880: "The oldest inhabitant knows nothing of Sydenham Poyntz,⁴ in fact, so far as my researches have hitherto extended, he appears to me like another Melchizedek. He first writes his name in the churchwarden's account book in the year 1739, with an extraordinary flourish of penmanship. He was churchwarden for Mrs. Hooper in 1736, and continued so for most of the time till 1750, when he seems to have acted for himself till 1767, then he vanishes from the history of Norton like a post boy, leaving no record of his decease in the obituary. His name first appears in an indenture relating to Ann Harris's Free School in 1731 as 'Sydenham Poyntz, of Midsomer Norton, gentleman,' the property of which school he managed till 1767. His name appears in the epigraph on the eighth bell in Midsomer Norton Church as Mr. Sydenham Poyntz, for Madame Hooper, 1750." In this year he seems to have been brought into some money difficulties through his nephew Newdigate, son of his elder brother, and wrote to Stephen Poyntz, Esq., afterwards Admiral, for assistance. The letter is extant, written from Stratton, Somerset, October, 1750, evidently by a man in much more humble circumstances than Stephen Poyntz, about the expense to which his nephew had put him and Stephen's kindness to the said nephew. It is endorsed "from cousin Sydenham," the endorsement by William Poyntz, "Sydenham Poyntz, with Mrs. Hooper."⁵

¹ Archdeaconry Court of Wells.

² Prerog. Court of Canterbury.

³ Archd. Court of Wells.

⁴ Letter to the Rev. H. L. Thompson, Rector of Iron Acton.

⁵ Spencer Papers.

In a cause depending in the High Court of Chancery, wherein Mary Hooper, widow, is plaintiff, and Thomas Bridges and Elizabeth his wife, and Thomas and Elizabeth Bridges their son and daughter, and Gerard Martin, are defendants; Sydenham Poyntz, of Downside, in the parish of Midsomer Norton, and others, became sureties under a bond of £600, Sydenham Poyntz being appointed receiver, under an Order of the Court, of the rents and profits of the estate of Mr. Thomas Bridges, of Leigh Buckland, in the county of Somerset. The recognizance was vacated on 29th November, 1763.¹

Sydenham Poyntz would appear to have been a man much respected for his probity and business habits. He died in February, 1768, and was buried at Mells on the 11th of that month, having made his will, in which he describes himself of Midsomer Norton, on the 26th January preceding. He gives legacies to all his sisters, being five; to William Bainton's four daughters; to William Gunning, of Mells; and gives, after the death of his wife, to Mr. James Poyntz, of Croscomb, all the family pictures, thus treating him prospectively as the representative of the family. Gives liberty to his wife to settle £400 upon her family, and makes her executrix, "she to continue a widow and not to marry any one after my death, and when she dies she may settle all my leasehold estates and money as she thinks proper." Will proved² by Elizabeth Poyntz, relict of deceased, 23rd April, 1768. She survived her husband 20 years, and made her own will 9th November, 1787, in which she describes herself as of Stratton in the Foss, co. Somerset; desires to be buried at Mells by her husband; gives legacies to her sisters-in-law, Mrs. Jane Wallen, Mrs. Grace Durbin, and Mrs. Elizabeth Hodges; to the children of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Frances Cullimore; to her nieces, Alice Carter, Mary Combes, Jane Baynton, and Ann Baynton; bequeaths to George Savage and William Hare, as trustees, her estates at Holcombe; rents to be paid to her nephew, Newdigate Poyntz, and to her niece, Ann Baynton; after his death the whole to Ann Baynton; residue to William and Elizabeth Butson, children of her nephew, William Butson. Proved by George Savage, Esq.,³ in trust, 22nd March, 1788.

These wills shew conclusively that Sydenham Poyntz died s. p., and no mention being made in either of the wills of John Poyntz, eldest son of Newdigate, we may fairly conclude that he also was dead s. p., and that Newdigate, his brother, was the only remaining issue male in 1788 of Richard Poyntz, junior, of Mells.

¹ Rot. Claus.

² Archdeaconry Court, Wells.

³ Archdeaconry Court, Wells.

William Poyntz, youngest son of Richard Poyntz, senr., of Mells, married on 15th June, 1704, Mary, daughter of Thomas Strode, of Stoke Lane, and settled there. By this marriage he had four sons. He does not appear to have lived very happily with his wife. Martha Strode, of Shepton Malet, her sister, in her will dated 8th October, 1728, gives an annuity "to my sister, Mary Poyntz, as long as she lives separate from her husband, Mr. William Poyntz, as she now doth. In case they live together the annuity to go to Strode, John and Francis Poyntz their sons." She does not name the other son Thomas.

A certain Gabriel Whistler of Combe, co. Hants, gent., was seized of the leases of the farm, woods and rectory of Combe aforesaid, and also of the leases of the Salter's proportion of lands in the co. of Londonderry, in Ireland, and the manors and lands thereto belonging, and by his will, dated 14th May, 1705, devised the same to his sister Eleanor Joy to hold to his said sister from the time of his decease for the term of her life, upon certain conditions therein specified, remainder after her death to his brother Henry Whistler, and to his nephew Henry Whistler, son of the said Henry; and to his nephew John Rawlinson, and to the survivors of them upon certain conditions; and by a codicil dated 31st December, 1709, reciting the above devise, and his said nephew Henry Whistler being dead, he appointed his nephew Ralph Whistler, apothecary, to be in the place of the said Henry, deceased; and the said Eleanor Joy, Henry Whistler, the father, and John Whistler being all dead, the said Ralph Whistler, as survivor, was entitled to the whole of the property.

The said Ralph Whistler, by some grant or assignment, conveyed the property in question to one John Bell, of New Inn, Middlesex, gent., and Sir Thomas Webster, Bart.,¹ claimed title to one full half or moiety of all the premises, and several suits at law were commenced both in England and Ireland relating thereto, for putting an end to which an arrangement was made by an indenture tripartite, dated 11th February, 1729-30, between Ralph *alias* Raphael Whistler, described as late of Hungerford, co. Berks, and now of London, apothecary, of the first part; William Poyntz, late of St. George's, Hanover Square, then of Edmonton, Middlesex, and Mary, his wife, of the second part; and the said Sir Thomas Webster, of Copt Hall, in Waltham Cross, Essex, of the third part; whereby, in consideration of Sir Thomas Webster covenanting by bond to pay an annuity of £30 to Ralph Whistler for the term of his

¹ Sir Thomas Webster was the first Baronet of the name, created 10th May, 1703. He was a venderer of the forest of Waltham, and married Jane, daughter and heir of Edward Cheek, Esq. (by Mary, daughter and one of the coheirs of Henry Whistler), upon which we presume his claim was founded.

life, and after his decease to his daughter, Ellinor Glover, for her life, if she should survive her father, and in consideration of £900 duly paid to William Poyntz, the said Ralph and William ratified and confirmed to the said Sir Thomas and his heirs all the said premises subject to the conditions of the will of the aforesaid Eleanor Joy.¹

We do not know the date of the death of William Poyntz and have not discovered any will or administration relating to him. He had four sons, as stated above. His eldest son Strode married a Miss Millard, of Shepton Mallet, and had a son James, who received from Sydenham Poyntz the bequest of all the family pictures. He was born in 1727, and married at Wells Mary daughter of . . . Sledge, of Shepton Mallet, by whom he had six children. He died at Bath, and was buried at Shepton Mallet, 26th August, 1804, aged 77. The Rev. Dugald Campbell Gill, writing to Major Poyntz, from Midgham, on 18th March, 1880, relates the following circumstances, derived from conversations with his mother in his childhood, and subsequently. He says, "the late Mr. William Poyntz, of Midgham, was fond of travelling about the country at times. He generally journeyed with his own carriage and four horses. On one occasion, it seems, he found himself at Shepton Mallet, and, after dinner at the inn, he wandered into the churchyard, and on a tombstone was naturally struck by seeing his own name, POYNTZ. He made inquiries, the result of which was, as I have always understood, he was satisfied that the family formed a branch of his own family. They were engaged in the manufacture of cloth, the trade of the place. He caused the family to remove to Midgham, and treated them with great kindness. If I am correct in my recollection, the family consisted at that time of the father of the late Admiral Poyntz, his mother, I think, two sons, and two daughters. Mr. William Poyntz started one of them in the army, and the other in the navy. One of the daughters married a Mr. Phillips. One of the sons, Captain Poyntz, was, I am satisfied, visiting at Midgham House on one occasion. When your family removed to Havant I cannot inform you."

We do not know what reliance can be placed upon the early recollections of the Rev. Mr. Gill, but it is very probable that Mr. William Poyntz, of Midgham, might have used his influence in the preferment of his kinsman's sons.

Strode the eldest, born in 1754, would appear to have been dead in 1799 without issue, for Mr. William Poyntz, of Midgham, would seem to have regarded

¹ Rot. Claus.

Captain James Poyntz, the second son, as the representative of the family by sending to him a box of papers which he states had once belonged to James grandfather, William Poyntz, stating that "being advancing very fast in years I would wish to have it delivered into your hands, fearing anything that should happen to me, though I don't think the papers may be of any consequence." There is a great deal of correspondence about this box and its contents. As is very often the case in families a belief existed that they were entitled to large estates of which they had been defrauded, or lost by negligence, and it was thought that the contents of this mysterious box would lead to the recovery of the lands. They were supposed to lie in England and Ireland and the West Indies. We know that Sir Sydenham Poyntz had estates in Antigua and Virginia, as we shall see by-and-bye, but this branch of the family could not have any claim to those lands. Upon an examination of the box it was found to contain various deeds and documents relative to the Whistler family, and the lands at Combe which Mr. James Poyntz had purchased of Ralph Whistler and afterwards sold to Sir Thomas Webster. Nevertheless the delusion still continued down to 1836, as shewn by a declaration made by Mrs. Mary Wright, daughter of James Poyntz and sister of Admiral Stephen Poyntz, who on 8th Feb., 1821, made a statutory declaration relative to a conversation with Mr. William Poyntz of Midgham, relative to the claims of the family, and the Admiral in 1836 made a declaration confirmatory of his sister, Mrs. Wright's statements.

Capt. James Poyntz obtained a commission in the 52nd Foot in 1784, and eventually was a captain in the Royal Kelso Regiment. We do not know anything of his services. He probably retired early from the army, married a Mrs. Piers, of Lottisham, in Ditchet, and resided at Thorne House, Yeovil, but died s.p.

Of Stephen, the third son of James Poyntz, we will write fully presently. Of the three daughters, Mary, the eldest, married a Mr. Wright, and made the declaration above referred. Another daughter, of whose Christian name we are ignorant, married the Rev. Mr. Philips, of Plumstead, co. Kent; and the third, Charlotte, married the Rev. Alfred Sanderson, sometime Vicar of Aston Blank, co. Gloucester, for whose issue see tabular pedigree post.

Stephen, the third son of Mr. James Poyntz, was placed in the navy, where he became a highly distinguished officer. He commenced his career on board the *BLenheim*, commanded by Captain Boxer, on 11th May, 1784, then lying at Plymouth; and in the course of the same year he sailed for the West Coast of Africa in the *Grampus*, Captain Thompson; and in 1785-6 he served in Newfoundland in the *Winchelsea*, Captain Pellew. After cruising for a few

months on the Halifax station in the ADAMANT, 50, Captain Knox, he was there made Lieutenant, 1st January, 1791, into the THISBE, Captain George. He next, in January, 1793, joined the LEDA frigate, Captain Campbell, attached to the force in the Mediterranean. He attained the rank of Commander, 31st October, 1795, in the CHILDERS sloop, on the Channel station; was made Post, 5th December, 1796, into the CAMILLA, 24, also employed in the Channel; and was subsequently appointed, 16th August, 1797, to the SOLEBAY, 32, in the West Indies; 1st January, 1801, to the BEAULIEU, 40, in the Channel, where he remained till May, 1802; 7th August, 1804, to the MELAMPUS; 1806 in the Home and West India Stations; 14th October, 1806, for two months, to the TARTAR, 32, at Halifax; 13th February, 1810, to the EDGAR, 74, in which ship he served in the Baltic until the following December. In the CHILDERS Captain Poyntz effected the capture, 14th September, of *La Bonne Espérance*, privateer, of two swivels and 25 men; and in company with the MELAMPUS, Captain Graham Moore, aided in taking, 13th November following, *L'Etna* corvette, of 18 guns, pierced for 20. During his command of the SOLEBAY he made prize, in the course of 1798, of the privateers *Augustine* of two guns and 23 men; *Destis*, of four guns and 46 men; and *Properitié*, of eight guns and 61 men; besides gallantly enforcing the surrender, 24th November, 1799, off the Island of St. Domingo of a French squadron, consisting of *L'Egyptienne*, armed store ship, of 20 guns and 137 men; *Eole*, ship corvette, of 12 guns and 96 men; and *Vengeur*, schooner, of eight guns and 91 men. Captain Poyntz was in command of the BEAULIEU, in 1801, when the boats of that ship and the DORIS and URANIE frigates cut out *La Chevette*, corvette, of 20 guns and 350 men, one of the most surprising exploits of the kind ever achieved.¹ The judicious arrangements he made on the occasion procured him the warmest thanks of Captain Charles Brisbane, of the DORIS, the senior officer present.² In the MELAMPUS we find him capturing two brigs, each carrying two long 24 pounders, one 18 pounder and 50 men, most of them soldiers³; four luggers, of one long 18 pounder, and 25 men each, from Bordeaux bound to Brest; and a Spanish privateer, the *Hydra*, of 28 guns and 192 men, three of whom were killed and several wounded before she surrendered.⁴ In September, 1806, being in the same ship in company with

¹ For the details of gallant exploit see Captain Chamier's Naval History of Great Britain, Vol. III., p. 148.

² Gazette, 1801, p. 919.

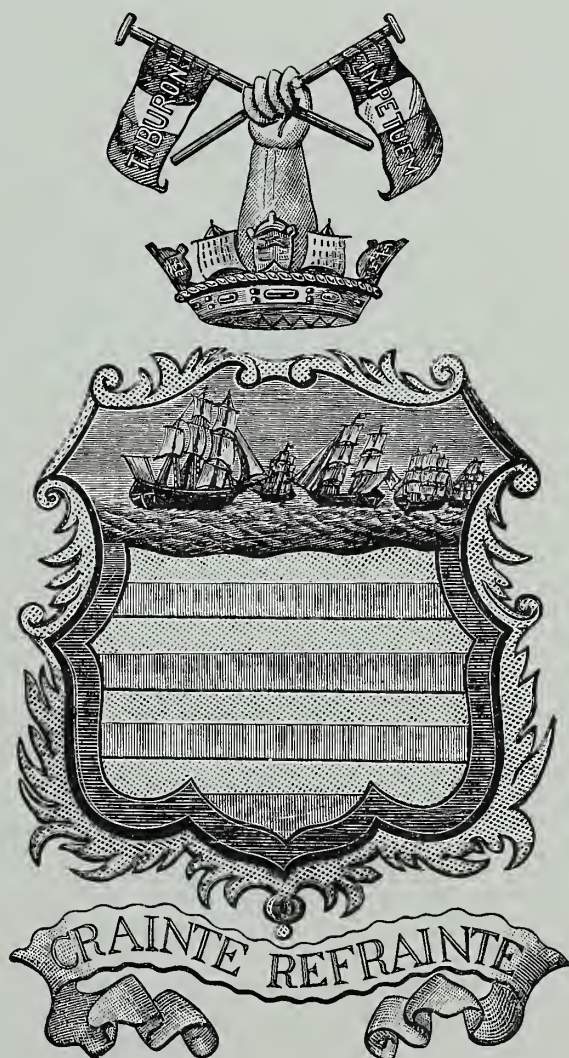
³ Gazette, 1805, p. 227.

⁴ Ibid., p. 955.

the BELLEISLE and BELLONA, each of 74 guns, he contributed to the destruction off Cape Henry, of the French 74, *L' Impetueux*. He became a Rear Admiral 12th August, 1819; a Vice Admiral 22nd July, 1830; and a full Admiral 24th November, 1841.¹

We have already alluded (ante p. 143) to the grant of arms to Admiral Poyntz with an honourable augmentation commemorating his services, the authorities having then refused to allow to him the old coat of Poyntz because he failed to prove the parentage of his ancestor, Richard Poyntz, of Mells. Since that time, however, the registration of the baptism of Richard Poyntz has been found at Shaftesbury, and the question is reduced to one of identity, upon which we have already remarked. The grant was as follows:—

TO ALL AND SINGULAR to whom these presents shall come Sir William Woods, Knight, Garter Principal King of Arms, and Joseph Hawker, Esquire, Clarenceaux King of Arms of the South East and West parts of England from the river Trent southwards send Greeting. Whereas Stephen Poyntz of Havant and Bedhampton, both in the county of Southampton, Esquire, Admiral of the Blue Squadron of Her Majesty's Fleet hath represented to the most noble Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, that he is desirous of bearing in the Armorial Ensigns hitherto used by him some distinctions having allusion to his services in the Royal Navy, whereby the remembrance of the same may be conveyed to his Posterity. He therefore requested the favour of His Grace's Warrant for our granting and assigning such Arms and Crest having allusion accordingly as may be proper to be borne by him and his descendants with due and proper differences according to the Laws of Arms. And forasmuch as the said Earl Marshal did by Warrant under his hand and Seal



¹ O'Byrne's Naval Biographical Dictionary, p. 920.

bearing date the twenty-eighth day of May last authorise and direct us to grant and assign unto the said Stephen Poyntz the Arms following, that is to say: *Barry of Eight Or and Gules, a Bordure Azure, On a Chief Wavy of the last on the dexter a representation of the ship "Solebay" and on the sinister Four French ships all proper; and for the Crest: Out of a Naval Crown Argent a Cubit Arm, the hand grasping two flag staves in Saltier proper flowing from either a French Tri-coloured Flag that on the dexter inscribed "Tiburon" and the one on the sinister "Impetueux" in letters of Gold the said Chief in the Arms and the Flags in the Crest being intended to commemorate the gallant action fought by the said ship "Solebay" then commanded by that Officer off Cape Tiburon in the year 1799 when the whole of the four enemy's ships were captured, and his subsequent distinguished conduct at the capture and destruction of the French ship "Impetueux" of 74 guns in September 1806, as the same are in the margin hereof more plainly depicted, to be borne and used for ever hereafter by the said Stephen Poyntz and his descendants with due and proper differences according to the Laws of Arms. In witness whereof we the said Garter and Clarenceaux Kings of Arms have to these presents subscribed our names and affixed the seals of our several offices the eighth day of June in the fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the Grace of God Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-two.*¹

Admiral Poyntz, in 1802, married Frances Lydia, daughter of Francis Brace, of Stagbatch, co. Hereford, and sister of Admiral Sir Edward Brace, K.C.B., also a very distinguished officer, and had issue three sons, and a daughter, named Frances Mary, who married Thomas Brace, Esq.

Stephen Poyntz, the eldest son of Admiral Poyntz, born in 1803, married, in 1831, at St. Martin's Church, Worcester, Mary Evans, and died in 1836, s. p. James William Poyntz, second son of Admiral Poyntz, born in 1807, matriculated as from St. Mary Hall, at Oxford, 13th May, 1828, married, 11th November, 1836, Elizabeth Dennis, who died in 1873, s. p. He is still (1885) living.

Edward Henry Poyntz, youngest son of Admiral Poyntz, born 1812, entered the army as ensign in the 59th Regiment, 7th September, 1832, became Lieutenant, 1834, Captain, 1st June, 1838, from which he retired in 1845. He married in 1834 Mary Frances, daughter of William Massy, Esq., of Dunville, near Dublin, and had issue three sons. Stephen Edward, the eldest son born 1835, entered the Royal navy and attained the rank of Lieutenant, but retired and settled in New Zealand at the age of 21 years. He married there in 1864, in the district of Timaru, Dorothy Ann Thorold, and has issue two sons, Edward

¹ The Letters Patent are in the possession of T. Brace, Esq., 9, Chandos Place, Cavendish Square, London.

Henry, born 1868, and William Hampden, born 1873. William James, the second son of Captain Edward Henry Poyntz, born in 1836, died the following year. William Henry Poyntz, youngest son of Captain Edward Henry Poyntz, entered the Royal Marines as second Lieutenant, 26th October, 1856, and served with the brigade of that corps in the Chinese Expedition of 1857-8, including the occupation of Honam Islands, the blockade of the Canton river, the landing before, storm and capture of the city ; also the occupation of Canton till 1860, and the several skirmishes that took place during that time. Served also in the Allied Expedition to the North of China in 1860 (medal and clasp) ; also at Shanghai during the attacks of the rebel army in August. Proceeded to Japan in 1863 and served there to end of 1865 as Adjutant to the "Royal Marine Battalion," and was present at the bombardment of the batteries of the Straits Simonoseki, the entrance of the inland sea of Japan, and at the assault, capture, and destruction of the five batteries, stockade and magazine, and barracks, and during the operations of the 5th to the 9th September, 1864.¹ He was appointed Lieutenant and Adjutant headquarters, May, 1866 ; Captain and Adjutant Chatham Division, one of the most important positions in the Royal Marine Service, September, 1867 ; appointed to command recruiting district York, June, 1871 ; and attained the rank of Major, November, 1872.

In 1873 he was appointed Chief Constable of Nottingham, out of about 120 candidates, in which capacity he served until 1881, when he was selected from about 200 candidates for the office of Chief Constable of the county of Essex, which he now (1885) holds.

¹ Hart's Army List 1872.

PEDIGREE OF POYNTZ OF REIGATE, Co. SURREY,
AND MELLs, Co. SOMERSET.

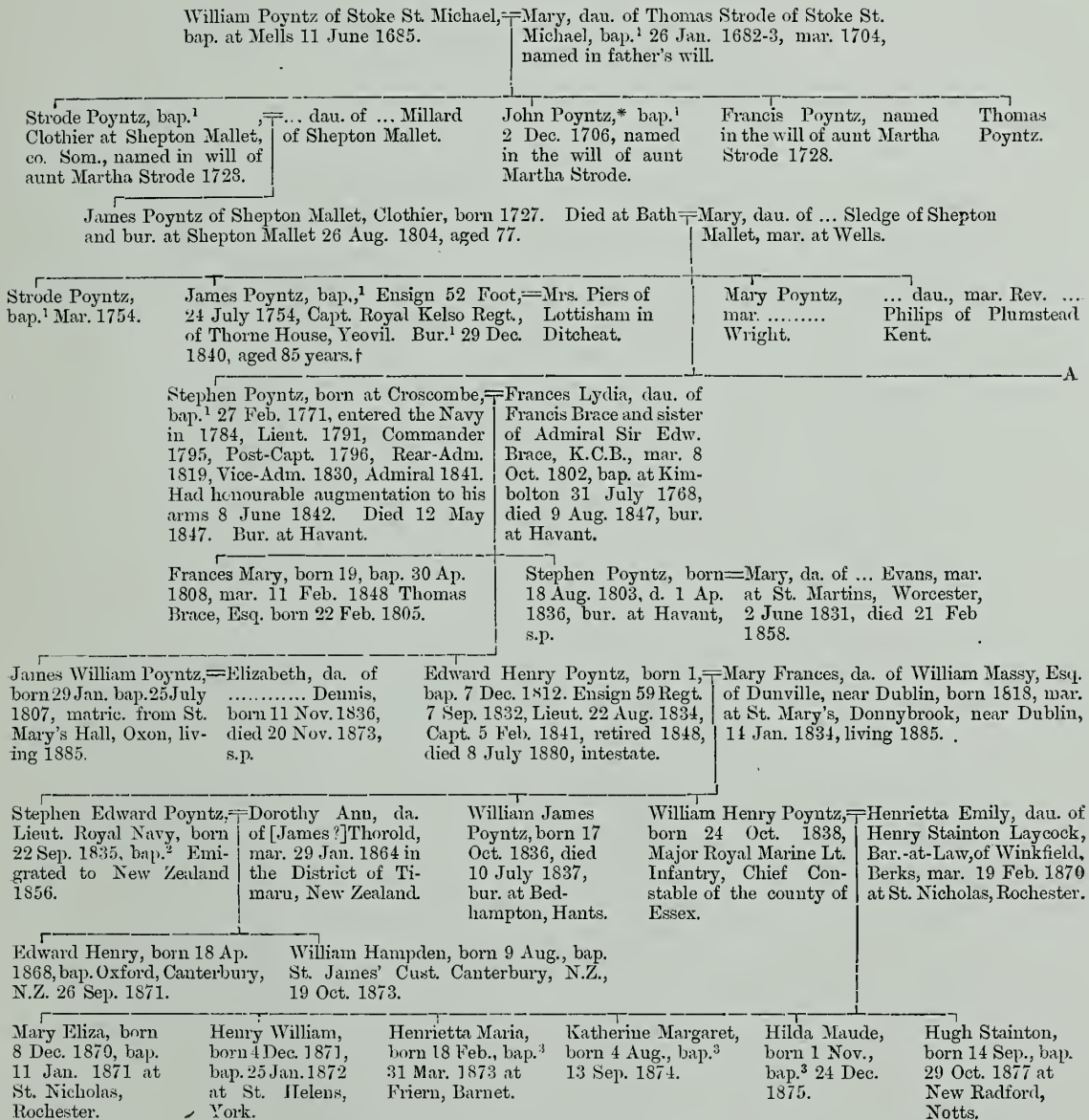
TABLE VII.

William Poyntz (2nd son of John Poyntz of Alderley), 1571, mar. ¹ 5 Aug. 1588 Admo. to his relict 25 April 1601.		Elizabeth, da. and coh. of Thomas Newdigate of Wivelsfield, Sussex (son of Walter Newdigate by Isabella, dau. of Sir Thomas Hampden of Baddes- ley, co. Herts), mar. ¹ 23 May 1569. Admd. to her husband's effects. Died 1602. Will dated 5 May 1601. Prob. 17 June 1602 (55 Montague).	
Rachel Poyntz, born probably 1571, mar. ¹ 5 Aug. 1588 Frawnch Moore.	Anne Poyntz, born 28 Sep., bap. ¹ 1 Oct. 1573.	Margaret Poyntz, born 21 and bap. ¹ 25 Aug. 1575, mar. ¹ 19 Feb. 1599 William Life.	Elizabeth Poyntz, bap. ¹ 7 Mar. 1579, named in mother's will.
Mary Poyntz, bap. ¹ 19 Oct. 1580.	Alice Poyntz, bap. ¹ 21 Oct. 1583, mar. ¹ 27 Ap. 1607 Richard Heaver.	John Poyntz, son & heir, bap. ¹ 8 Dec. 1577, one of the King's Marshals 1607. Exor. to mother's will.	
		Anne, da. and h. of John Sydenham of Nymps- field, co. Glouc. by his wife Mary, da. of Sir Nicholas Poyntz of Iron Acton and relict of Francis Codrington of Frampton. (See ante, p. 96). Mar. ¹ 27 July 1598. Divorced from her husband.	
Helen Poyntz, named in her grandmother's will, dated 1601.	John Poyntz, bap. ¹ 5 Mar. 1600, died in infancy.	Susan Poyntz, mar. Richard Foxley. Died in 1633.	James Poyntz, bap. ¹ 8 Sep. 1601.
		William Poyntz, named in Chanc. Proc. 1629, and died soon after.	
John Poyntz, bap. ¹ 17 Sep. ... 1606, Capt. in Navy 1658, and Clerk Controller and Clerk of Revels 1663.		Sir Sydenham Poyntz, bap. ¹ 3 Nov. 1607, Colonel-General and Major- General in Parliamentary Army. (See post, Chap. VI.)	Newdigate Poyntz, bap. ¹ 16 Nov. 1608. See post, Chap. VII.) and Ped., Table IX.
Richard Poyntz of Mells, co. Som., Clothier, bap. at Shaftesbury 8 July 1640. Died at Mells intes- tate and was bur. there 2 Oct. 1702.		Elizabeth, dau. of ... Benfield and neice of Richard Fowler, Clk., Rector of Siston, co. Glouc. Admd. to husband's effects 3 May 1703. Bur. ² 3 May 1730.	
Frances Poyntz, bap. ² 14 Dec. 1675.	John Poyntz, bap. ² 12 June 1677, bur. ² 23 Oct. 1702, unmar., s.p.	Richard Poyntz of Mells, Clothier, bap. ² 24 Aug. 1679, bur. ² Will dated 9 June 1758. Prob. 25 April 1759 (Wells).	Ann, dau. of Bur. ² 13 May 1741.
		William Poyntz See Table VIII.	
Frances Poyntz, bap. ² 31 Mar. 1702, named in father's will, mar. ... Cullimore.	Sydenham Poyntz of Midsomer Norton, co. Som., bap. ² 12 Aug. 1706, bur. ² 11 Feb. 1768. Will dat. 26 Jan. 1768. Prob. 23 April following. Mar. at St. George's, Hanover Square, London, 17 June 1762 Elizabeth Tucker the ex ^r s. to his will. Her will, dated 9 Nov. 1787, prov. 22 Mar. 1788 by George Savage, ex ^r . in trust, s.p.		Jane ⁴ Poyntz, bap. ² 17 Jan. 1707-8, mar. ... Wallein.
			Grace ⁴ Poyntz bap. ² 29 May 1711, mar. .. Durb'n.
Elizabeth ⁴ Poyntz, mar. ... Hodges.	Alice ⁴ Poyntz, mar. at Hermington 1 Jan. 1753 William Bainton.	Newdigate Poyntz of Nunney, co. Som., ex ^r . to father's will. Died intestate. Bur. ³ 15 Jan. 1739-40. Admo. to John Smith, princ. creditor, 8 Sep. 1742.	Elizabeth, dau. of ..., appointed guardian to her four children, all of whom are named. Bur. ³ 31 May 1762. Will dat. 11 July 1761. Prob. 16 June 1762 (Wells).
John Poyntz, bap. ³ 4 Sep. 1733.	Ann Poyntz, bap. ³ 7 Mar. 1735, bur. ³ 13 Nov. 1754, unmar.	Mary Poyntz, bap. ³ 26 Dec. 1738, executrix of her mo- ther's will, bur. ³ 15 Ap. 1766, unmar.	Newdigate Poyntz, bap. ³ 15 Mar. 1740, named in wills of mother and aunt Elizabeth relict of uncle Sydenham Poyntz, and in that of his grand- father 1758. We have no evidence that he left issue or was ever married.

¹ At Reigate.² At Mells.³ At Nunney.⁴ Named in father's will.

PEDIGREE OF POYNTZ OF SHEPTON MALLET, Co. SOMERSET,
AND HAVANT, Co. HANTS.

TABLE VIII.



* John Poyntz and Mary Strode were married at Shepton Mallet, June 1761. ?

† The Poyntz vault became so dilapidated that the stones were removed, and there is now no trace of it remaining.

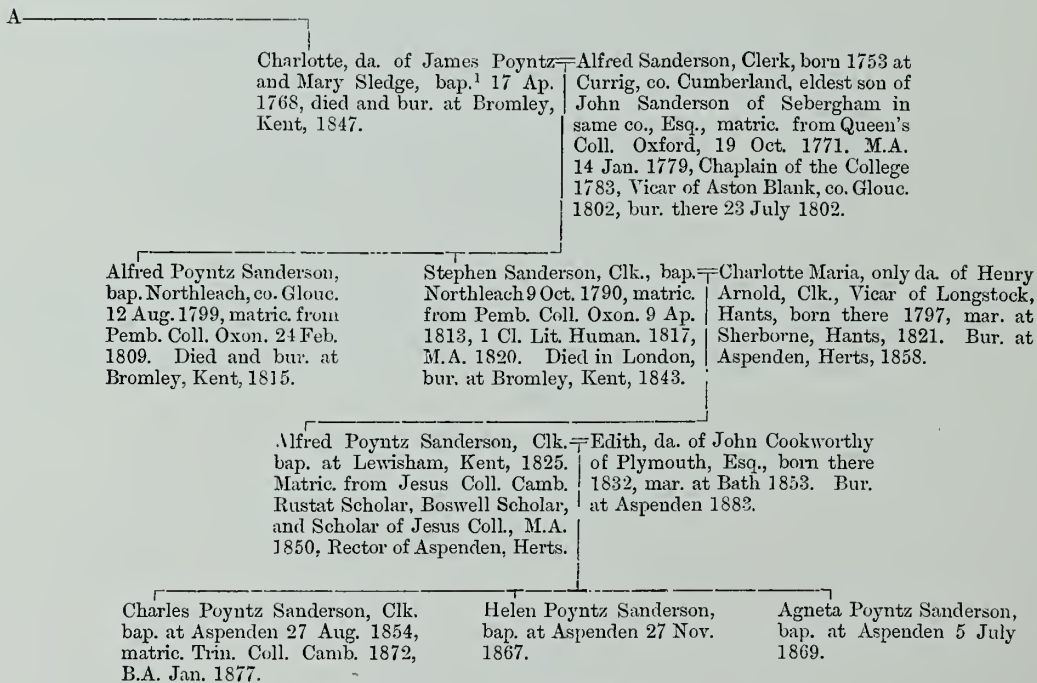
¹ At Shepton Mallet.

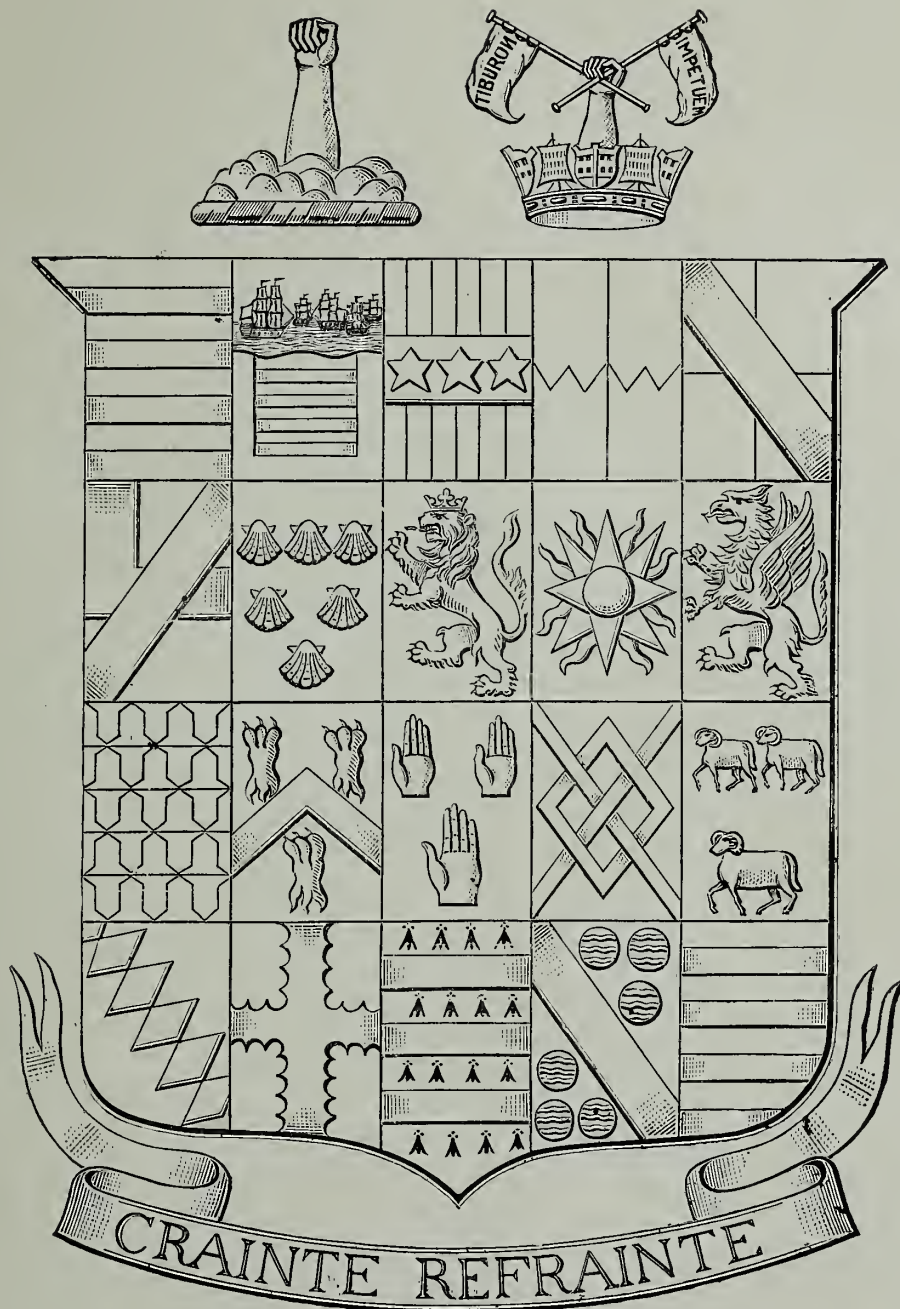
² At Havant.

³ At St. Nicholas, Nottingham.

BLAZON OF THE ARMS OF THE DESCENDANTS OF ADMIRAL STEPHEN POYNTZ.

1. Barry of eight, Or and Gules. POYNTZ.
 2. Barry of eight, Or and Gu. a bordure Az. on a chief wavy of the last, on the dexter a representation of the ship *Solebay*, and on the sinister four French ships all ppr. POYNTZ (Modern).
 3. Paly of six, Or and Az. upon a fess Gu. three mullets Or. CLANVOWE.
 4. Quarterly, per fess dancette Ar. and Az. ACTON.
 5. Quarterly, Gu. and Or a bend Ar. FITZ NICHOL.
 6. Ar. a fess and canton Gu. debruised by a bend sinister Sa. WYDVILLE.
 7. Gu. six escallops Ar. 3, 2, 1. SCALES.
 8. Ar. a lion ramp. Gu. crowned Or. ST. PAUL.
 9. Gu. a star of eight points Ar. DE BEAULX.
 10. Gu. a griffin segreant Or. Unknown.
 11. Vaire, Az. and Ar. BEAUCHAMP.
 12. Gu. a chev. betw. 3 lions' gambes erased Ar. armed Or. NEWDIGATE.
 13. Az. three sinister hands couped Ar. MALMAYNES.
 14. Az. a fret Ar. ECHINGHAM.
 15. Ar. three rams passant Sa. SYDENHAM.
 16. Ar. a bend fusilé Or. KITSFORD.
 17. Ar. a cross eng. Gu. Not identified.
 18. Erm. three bars Gu. Not identified.
 19. Sa. a bend Or betw. six fountains Az. STURTON.
 20. As first.
- CRESTS: 1. Issuant from clouds a dexter cubit arm ppr. fist clenched.
2. Out of a naval crown Ar. a cubit arm, the hand grasping two flag staves in saltier ppr. flowing from either a French tricoloured flag, that on the dexter inscribed "TIBURON," and the one on the sinister "IMPETUEUX" in letters of gold.
- MOTTO: CRAINTE REFRAINTE.

¹ At Shepton Mallet.



Arms of Poyntz of Havant, etc.



MAJOR GENERAL SIR SYDENHAM POYNTZ.

CHAPTER VI.

MAJOR GENERAL SIR SYDENHAM POYNTZ.

The career of Sydenham, the fourth born son of John Poyntz of Reigate and Anne Sydenham his wife, was very chequered and eventful. The first information of him which we have is derived from certain proceedings in Chancery (to which we have before alluded, p. 138), the exact date of which, though it was certainly after 1625 and probably a little before 1630, does not appear; and this date is confirmed by the age of Sydenham as certified below, when he was supposed to have died, which is stated to have been about twenty-two, and he was born in November, 1607. In this suit William Poyntz, gentlemen, was plaintiff, and Katherine Golden, widow, defendant. The Bill of Complaint and the Answer thereto are not now extant, but we gather from the Replication of William Poyntz the substance of the suit. It appears that John Poyntz, father of the said William and Sydenham, placed his son Sydenham as apprentice with a certain William Golden for a term of years, and paid to the said William Golden the sum of £50, which the said William, under a Bond, undertook to repay to the said Sydenham or William his brother, the Replicant, under certain conditions; and William Poyntz alleges that his brother Sydenham, being about twenty-two years of age, dyed at Rotterdam in the Netherlands on or about the 25th July, 1625, as by the certificate of Thomas Davies, captain to the said Sydenham appeareth; and the suit appears to have been brought to recover the said sum of £50.

The refusal to repay the sum in question was grounded upon a charge of misconduct on the part of Sydenham Poyntz during his apprenticeship, for William Poyntz denies the misdemeanours pretended by Katherine Golden, in her Answer, to have been committed by the said Sydenham, in pilfering, wasting and purloining from William Golden either goods or money, or that he ran away to avoid punishment; and William affirms that Sydenham Poyntz in about the twelfth year of his age, and during his service, was almost starved for want of victuals and necessary food, and admits that to relieve himself from

famine he did obtain, upon the credit of the said William Golden, from a chandler residing near, "one half-penny loofe of bredde and one half-penny cheese," for which offence he was held by the eldest apprentice and the maid-servant, and the "said Golden himself whipped the said Sydenham with cruill roddes and whipes all over his bodie from his head to his heels, in such sort that he had like to die thereof, and did hardly recover;" and he urges that the sole cause of his sudden departure was to prevent famine and lest he should be again so inhumanly whipped. William Poyntz further states that his brother "was an absolute Protestant in the Unity with the Church of England, and that Golden was then before a Convicted Recusant, and afterwards a confirmed Papist; and further that Golden did turn him over to one Briscoe, and afterwards to one Wheyer." The document extends to a greater length than we can follow it, though there is not much further information concerning Sydenham Poyntz, beyond that his more recent masters, Briscoe and Wheyer, were poor men and did almost starve the said Sydenham for want of necessary food, the which was the only cause that he, being a gentlemen of an ancient stock and family, and tenderly brought up, did go beyond the seas with the consent of his said last two masters.

The proceedings, however, give some insight into the early career of William Poyntz. As a reason for not claiming the debt of £50 at the time it became due he states: "I was then in the West Indies, Commander of a shipp of the Right Hon^{ble} Earl of Warwick; and a little before in H. M. Service in the Isle of Rè in France; and before that in H. M. Service at Cales in the Kingdom of Spayne; and before that in the Service of the Lords of the States, in the Netherlands on the behalf of our late deceased Sovereign Lord King James of famous memorie, with the Right Hon^{ble} Lord Robert Earl of Essex in the Service of the Queen of Bohemia, and that therefore I had neither tyme, occasion, or opportunity to make any legall demand of the £50 of William Golden."¹ It should, however, be noticed that in these proceedings he names Anne Poyntz, the mother of himself, and Sydenham and his brother Newdigate, and intimates that there were at that time only four of the children of John and Anne Poyntz alive.

Nothing is recorded of Sydenham Poyntz during the period of his service on the Continent, beyond what he has himself stated. He avows himself to have been a soldier of fortune, and to have entered the army of the Emperor. It is, however, evident that he must have signalized himself for his bravery and

¹ Chancery Proceedings, Charles I, P. p. Bundle 21, No. 60.

soldierlike qualities to enable him, an unknown runaway London "prentice," to have raised himself to the rank of sergeant major in one of the first armies in Europe, and to be knighted for his gallantry on the field of battle. We do not know when he returned to England, but we conclude that the Civil War brought him home in the hope that he might obtain suitable employment in his own country. His name, however, is not included in Mr. Peacock's "Army Lists of Roundheads and Cavaliers for 1642," and we do not find him mentioned until after the Parliamentary Army had been *remodelled* upon the passing of the Self-denying Ordinance, arising out of the factions and jealousies of the Presbyterians and Independents, on 3rd April, 1645. The first notice of him which we have observed is in the Journals of the House of Commons, from which it appears that on the 22nd May, 1645, it was ordered by the House that £200 shall be charged upon Haberdasher's Hall and paid upon account, in his turn, to Colonel Poynes or his assigns, to be deducted out of the arrears of his entertainment.¹ From the fact, however, of his having a large sum due to him for arrears of pay it would appear that he must have been in the service for some time. On the 27th May it was ordered that letters be written to the Committee in the north for Colonel Poynes to have the command of a regiment of horse and a regiment of foot there, and to have the pay of a colonel for those two regiments.² Soon after this he was appointed to the chief command in the seven Northern Counties, for after the surrender of Pontefract Castle, letters from him, being described as Colonel Poynes, Commander in Chief of all the Northern Association, and from the Committee at York, dated 21st July, 1645, were read in the House, announcing the fact of the surrender. The intelligence was received with great joy by the House. It was ordered that on the next Lord's Day public thanks should be given in all churches and chapels within the Bills of Mortality, and that Colonel Poyntz should have the next command, worthy of him, in the north; and the House proceeded to appoint Sir Thomas Fairfax, the General in Chief of the Parliamentary Forces, to the military command of the captured castle. Meanwhile the House of Lords resolved to make Colonel Poyntz governor thereof, "the gaining of it being the first fruits of his labour." The Commons, however, replied that before the Lords' message was received the government of Pontefract was placed by vote of the House in Sir Thomas Fairfax, and the Lords concurred. A few days afterwards (1st August) the House of Commons caused to be read the Order of the House on 24th July that Colonel Poyntz should have the next command that should fall in the north, worthy of him, and it was ordered that the two

¹ Commons' Journals, Vol. iv, p. 151.

² Ibid., p. 156.

letters, one from the Committee and the other from Colonel Poyntz, be referred to the Committee of the Northern Association with directions that they should consider the debate of the House upon the business and the ordinance thereon. The House also intimates that the Committee of the North have no power to appoint to any post, garrison, or castle therein, and resolves that this House doth nominate and appoint Colonel-General Poyntz to be governor of the City of York, and that the members of both Houses that are of the Committee of both Kingdoms do grant him a commission accordingly.¹ The Lords' concurrence to be desired, and it was carried up to the Lords on the 23rd,² who the same day approved that a commission should be granted to him accordingly.³

On the 26th August a letter from Poyntz, a portion of which related to his pursuing the King, was read in the House of Commons. What instructions were given to him upon this subject we are unable precisely to trace, but we find him early in September with Colonel Rossiter quartered about Gloucester and Tewkesbury with a large body of horse, observing the movements of the King lest his Majesty should make any attempt to succour Bristol,⁴ and we shall presently see they were watching the King's march from Raglan.

The city of Chester, a place of very great importance, it being the key to North Wales, was garrisoned by Lord Byron for the king, but it was closely besieged by the able and persevering Brereton. The King marched from Raglan with the purpose of raising the siege. Gerrard's horse were waiting to join him at Ludlow, but Poyntz had advanced with 2000 cavalry to the neighbourhood of Leominster to intercept him. The King diverted his course towards Bromyard, but Gerrard did not receive his orders for that rendezvous in time to join there. A further rendezvous was appointed at King Arthur's stone at Dorston. Poyntz, however, was with great activity watching the King's course with a stronger force, frequently interrupting his progress. After many marchings and countermarchings the King reached Llanfyllin on the 21st Sept., where the disheartening intelligence reached him that part of the outworks at Chester had fallen. The city was in great danger, but was being resolutely defended at the open breach. The King hastened to send an encouraging message to Byron, begging him, if possible, to hold out for yet twenty-four hours, and he succeeded in entering the city on the 23rd unopposed, but only to find that Poyntz had marched by a less devious route night and day with his own and Rossiter's horse, and was on the point of coming up on the other

¹ Commons' Journals, Vol. iv, p. 248.

² *Ibid.*, p. 250.

³ Lords' Journals, Vol. vii, p. 548.

⁴ "Bibliotheca Gloucestrensis," p. 112.

side. Next day brought on the long expected battle on Rowton heath. Langdale with his worn-out troopers charged and drove back Poyntz, but was taken in the rear and routed by the besieging force of Jones. The defeat was complete: 900 Royalist prisoners were sent to Nantwich, together with many gentlemen and officers of name, and the Earl of Lichfield, attempting to stay the rout, was slain. Clarendon describes him as a very faultless young man, of a most gentle, courteous and affable nature, and of a spirit and courage invincible, whose loss all men exceedingly lamented, and the King, whose kinsman he was, bore it with extraordinary grief.¹

This was undoubtedly a great triumph for the Parliamentary forces, in which they naturally much exulted. Vicars says, "It pleased the Lord to crown him (Poyntz) with a glorious and most famous Victory, where he, at last, put the Enemy to a total rout, and there were slain 2 Lords, whereof the one was the Lord Bernhard, Earle of Leichfield, the king's near kinsman, Sir Bryan Stappleton, one Colonell, one Lievttenant Colonell, with about 400 Officers, Commanders, and common souldiers, besides what were slain in the pursuit, which was confidently assured to make up in all neere upon 800; they also took prisoners about 1500, whereof were Sir Thomas Dabridgecourt, Sir Thomas Gore, Colonell Thomas Weston, son to the Earle of Portland, and 6 more Col., 7 Lievttenant Col., 5 Majirs, 19 Captaines, 14 Lievttenants, 7 Cornets, 19 Gentlemen of his majesties Life-Guard, 20 other Gentlemen, 5 Trumpeters, and four Quartermasters; 2000 horse, great store of Arms, and much good pillage for the souldiers; upon the intelligence of which most glorious Victory the Parliament sent £500 as a token of the Kingdome's thankfulnessse to this noble Major Gen."² Probably the numbers are considerably exaggerated, but the Royalists admit, as we have seen, that 900 prisoners were sent to Nantwich on the following day.

Before this battle Poyntz appears to have written to the House urgently requesting reinforcements, for on the 25th it was ordered that the Committee of the Army do immediately withdraw and sit all this day, both forenoon and afternoon, concerning the business of the army; and it was ordered that it be referred to the Committee of both Kingdoms to take speedy care of the preservation and succouring of Colonel-General Poyntz, upon the information given that great forces of the enemy are sent after him.³

¹ Webb's "Memorials of the Civil War," vol. ii, 229-232.

² Vicars' "England's Worthies," p. 92.

³ Commons' Journals, iv, p. 284. See also British Museum Library, $5\frac{1}{2}\frac{7}{8}$ K 11 Letter dated Sep. 29th, 1645, 4to. The King's forces totally routed by the Parliamentary army under the command of Colonel General Poyntz, and Chester forces, on Rowton Heath, together with the state of the siege of Chester.

On the 29th September Colonel Parsons appeared at the House bearing a letter from Colonel-General Poyntz.¹ He was called in, and having delivered the letter and withdrawn, the letter, dated from Miller's Heath near Chester on the 25th September, reported the great defeat given to the King's forces there. Whereupon it was resolved that Colonel Parsons, who brought the message, should be granted £100, and Colonel-General Poyntz £500; and Colonel Parsons being again called in Mr. Speaker by command of the House acquainted him to this effect, and that the House did very much resent² the great service done by Colonel-General Poyntz and the rest of the officers under him. It was then referred to the Committee for both Kingdoms³ how Colonel-General Poyntz and the forces under him might be employed for the best service of the Commonwealth.⁴ On the 4th October it was ordered that Colonel Leicester Devereux and the horse under his command do forthwith march to Colonel-General Poyntz and join the forces under his command; and on the 6th October⁵ upon the receipt of a letter from Poyntz, dated from Ellesmere on the 1st, an ordinance was passed for charging £5000 on the Excise for the payment of his troops.⁶

The reference of 25th September to the Committee concerning the employment of General Poyntz and his forces probably led to the transactions which we shall now proceed to relate.

His first step, so far as we can trace, was an attack upon Belvoir Castle, of which Sir Gervas Lucas was Governor. He reports to Speaker Lenthall as under from Botsford, 21st November, 1645.—

“Sir,—The last night I drew up these Forces with me before Belvoyre Castle, and sending in a summons the Governor returned me this answer:—

‘Sir,—I am no less distrustful of Providence than you are, and return you answer: That I was not placed here by the King to surrender to Rebels, and for the effusion of blood you mention, the crime will be your own, not mine; therefore I will not give one inch of ground I am able to maintain with my Sword against all your attempts made against this place, and your Servant,

‘JERVACE LUCAS.’

whereupon, my men being in readinesse, we stormed their works in four severall places, and after an hours dispute entered and possessed ourselves of all their Works and Stables, so that in a short time I hope to return you a

¹ This letter, containing a fuller account of the victory, and a perfect list of the prisoners taken, will be found in the British Museum Library. It is dated 30th Sep., 1645, E $\frac{30}{21}$.

² “were sensible of.”

³ Commons' Journals, iv, 292.

⁴ Ibid., p. 293.

⁵ Ibid., p. 297.

⁶ Ibid., p. 298.

good accompt of that place. I cannot as yet hear any thing of the Foot ordered to me out of the Eastern Garrisons so that my going to Newark is much retarded thereby, and out of York there is neither horse nor foot as yet appears. I shall according to the trust reposed in me use my best endeavour for the Publique, and ever remain, Sir,

“Your faithfull and humble Servant,

“SEDNHAM (*sic*) POYNTZ.”¹

Adjutant-General Sandys writes:—“The works were gallantly defended, but that the besiegers were in possession of the Spring that supplied the Castle with water, and that he doubted not that they would soon take it.”

These confident anticipations were not, however, realized. From what cause we know not, but Poyntz very quickly withdrew his forces, probably from approaching relief from Newark, for we read that on the 27th November Sir Richard Byron, Governor of Newark, and Sir Gervas Lucas made a dash on Melton Mowbray, and took six or seven hundred men, arms, &c., together with the Parliamentary Committee of Leicester, viz., Staveley Hazelrigg and Captain Hacker.²

Soon after this General Poyntz went to Nottingham on his way to invest Newark, and Colonel Hutchinson, Governor of the former place, suggested to him the propriety of securing two little garrisons in the vale, that of Shelford and Wiverton, instead of leaving them in his rear. He saw, at once, the force of this suggestion and first summoned Shelford to surrender.³ Colonel Philip Stanhope, the governor, returned a scornful answer and the garrison was invested. Colonel Hutchinson, at his own request, was assigned a position within the town, and being galled by the fire of some soldiers of the garrison, who had taken up a position in the steeple of the church, commanded them to surrender, and on their refusal kindled a fire to smoke them out. This had the desired effect. There was among them a boy whom he knew to have been in the service of the Royalists and had been made prisoner. Playing upon the fears of the lad by threatening to hang him as a deserter, the boy begged his life, and said he could show them a way into the fortification, which he did, and after some desperate fighting the gates were thrown open, and General Poyntz entered with the horse. He ordered that no quarter should be given and the slaughter was terrific. The governor was found mortally wounded, stripped and

¹ British Museum, E 309 (38).

² Brown's "History of Newark," p. 140.

³ In the British Museum Library is a copy of his summons with the Governor's answer. E 308 (30), F 30994.

thrown upon a dunghill, and died the following day. Thus fell Shelford and the following day Wiverton, the house of Lord Chaworth, yielded, upon terms, and was pulled down.¹

General Poyntz then proceeded to Newark. This town had remained loyal during the whole of the war, and the Newark men had on many occasions done excellent service against the enemy. At this time the garrison was the strongest and most important that remained faithful to the King. Here many of the fugitive Royalists took shelter after the disastrous defeat at Naseby. In the beginning of October the King himself arrived and was cordially and affectionately welcomed. The design of General Poyntz to make an effort to take the place became known to the King, and when Poyntz crossed to the north side of the Trent the King thought it desirable to take means for his own safety, and on the night of 3rd November, accompanied by about 500 horse, his Majesty left Newark, and passing the besiegers' lines without being observed made his way to Oxford. The town was soon closely invested, The Scots, under David Leslie, established their head-quarters between Newark and Kelham. General Poyntz, with the troops from Nottingham, Derby and Leicester, lay between Newark and Faruham, Colonel Rossiter at Balderton, Colonel Thomas Gray at Coddington, and Colonel Henry Gray at Winthorp. Two lines of circumvallation were constructed around the town, strongly protected by numerous redoubts and bulwarks. The town itself was well fortified, and the garrison seized every opportunity of assailing their enemies by furious sallies, in one of which Newdigate Poyntz, younger brother of the General, who throughout had adhered to the Royal cause, was slain. Colonel Hutchinson, in the command of the Nottingham men, had several narrow escapes. On one occasion when General Poyntz accompanied by Colonel Hutchinson and another captain were riding to inspect the works a cannon bullet came whizzing between them as they were riding abreast, and the captain, without being touched by it, exclaimed that he was killed. Poyntz told him to get off, but he was then sliding down from his horse, slain by the wind of the bullet; they held him up until they got off from the place, but the man immediately turned black all over. Another time Hutchinson was in his tent, and, being by chance called out, he had scarcely left the tent when a cannon ball came and tore up the whole tent and killed the sentinel at the door.²

The opening of the year 1646 found the town still invested. On one occasion in March a vigorous sally was made by the garrison, and more than 200 troops under General Poyntz's immediate command were killed and taken

¹ Mrs. Hutchinson's "Life of Col. Hutchinson," pp. 254, 255.

² Ibid., p. 261.

prisoners. Both parties were equally resolute. We are informed General Poyntz formed a design to divert the course of the river Trent which flowed close to the town and the river Snite into new channels, which would prevent the use of the grist mills of the town and open the approaches thereto on the north side. On the 28th March, in the name of the Commiteee for both kingdoms, the town was again summoned to surrender. It was pointed out that the besiegers had a force of 16,000 horse and foot before the town, experienced soldiers, which it was impossible the garrison could resist, and that they would at that time receive more favourable terms than afterwards. A spirited reply was sent by Lord Bellasis the governor, in which he referred to the King's letter of the 23rd to the Parliament proposing an accommodation, by the acceptance of which they would have the place without any further trouble, but that he considered it his duty not to outstrip the King's commands, but to trace them, though if they would give a pass he would send a messenger to ascertain the King's pleasure, otherwise he requests them to take notice that when he received his commission for the government of the town he annexed his life as a label to his trust.

A few days after the reply had been sent the garrison manifested their determination to resist if it need be to the uttermost. A vigorous onslaught was made on the quarters of General Poyntz, and the works were carried by storm. Many were put to the sword, and others being driven back into the Trent were drowned, and when the impetuous Cavaliers returned they brought back with them scores of prisoners.

Meanwhile the most important matters were being considered by the King and his council at Oxford. His majesty's affairs had become desperate, and it was debated whether it were better he should attempt to obtain conditions from the Parliamentary army; whether he should throw himself upon the two Houses at Westminster, in which, in the very strained relations which at that time existed between the Parliament and the Army, he probably would have been gladly welcomed; or whether he should escape privately beyond the seas; but before either course had been determined upon, M. Montreville arrived as an agent from the King of France, charged with instructions to treat with the Commissioners from Scotland then in London, and endeavour to get them to moderate their demands with regard to the Covenant and other matters, and that upon these terms he might assure them that the King would go into their army before Newark. The Commissioners gladly embraced the proposal made to them, and authorised M. Montreville to proceed to Oxford and assure the King that in all things they would comply with his Majesty's desires. The King

entertained the envoy's proposal, and upon his undertaking that the Court of France would guarantee the conditions, the unfortunate monarch delivered himself up to the Scots, the fatal results of which we shall not enter upon.

The King sent an order to Lord Bellasis to deliver up Newark, which was received by the town with the greatest grief and consternation. Lord Bellasis is said to have shed tears, and the soldiers united in his sorrowful feelings. Nor were the townsmen wanting in valour. The mayor is said to have headed three deputations to the governor, assuring him of their strength, both in provisions and ammunition. But the die was cast. The King could hold out no hope. The articles for surrender were dated 6th May, 1646.¹

A considerable amount of jealousy, suspicion, and ill feeling, not perhaps unmixed with envy, appears to have arisen against General Poyntz, insomuch that he felt it necessary to defend himself by a public letter addressed to a kinsman. This may be found in a pamphlet of ten pages in the British Museum, entitled "The Vindication of Colonel General Poyntz against the false and malicious slanders secretly cast forth against him as in a letter to a friend of his and as a Servant of the State doth appear—London 1645, Feb. 3." He defends himself against various personal charges made against him, apparently by the Independents, as to his religion; his severity as a general; his morals; and his being a Papist. He says he has always been brought up a member of the Reformed Protestant religion, and has been, for many years, a member of the Dutch Church. The suspicion may have arisen because he served the Emperor against the Duke of Saxony and was knighted on the field for his service. He says he has been a soldier of fortune and has been much accustomed to another climate. The letter is subscribed: "Your assured loving Kinsman and faithful servant, Sedenham Poyntz. Stoake Jan. 20, 1645."

Notwithstanding the growing jealousies and ill-will between the two great rival factions in the State, the Presbyterians and Independents, to the former of which General Poyntz would appear to have attached himself, he seems still to have possessed the confidence of the House of Commons, for soon after this a free gift was made to him by the House of £200 to buy himself horses.

On the 10th January, 1645-6, a letter was received by the Parliament from the commissioners for Nottingham, dated the fourth, at the time of the rigours of the siege, enclosing a remonstrance from Col. General Poyntz, the nature of which we can only infer. These documents were read and were ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Northern Association to consider of something, and to offer it to the House, that may be conferred upon Colonel General

¹ Brown's "Annals of Newark," pp. 153-162.

Poyntz in respect to his good services, and to settle his own personal entertainment and the maintenance of a scout-master, spies, and other incidental charges; and it was ordered that the residue of the £5000 (granted, out of the Excise, 6 Oct. preceding) be sent to him.¹

On the 4th July a letter was read from the committee at York complaining of the insupportable burden of the armies they be under, and the House being informed that Major General Poyntz, the commander in chief in the Northern Association, who hath done many faithful and great services to the Parliament, is lately come from the forces in the northern parts, etc., he is called in and related to the House the position of the armies in those parts, and how they be quartered, and the good correspondency which existed between the officers of the army. It was resolved that £1000 be forthwith advanced and provided and paid upon account to Colonel-General Poyntz in part of the arrears due upon his entertainment. He is called in again and informed that the House had taken notice of his good service at Rowton Moor, at Newark, and at other places, and gave him thanks for the same, and further that they had appointed £1000 of his arrears to be paid to him on account, that they had bestowed upon him £200 as a mark of their favour, and had ordered that £300 per annum be settled upon him and his heirs, and had put it in a way for granting and estating the same upon him accordingly.²

Some time in this year, the precise date unknown, the medal figured below was cast at York by the celebrated Abraham Simon, whose initials are placed just below the shoulder. Pinkerton says ("Essay on Medals and Coins," Vol. ii, p. 170, Ed., 1808) that the medals and coins of this artist are the most admirable which modern times have produced.³



¹ Commons' Journal, iv, 298; see ante, p. 164.

² Ibid., p. 602.

³ The Poyntz medal is very rare. There is a recent copy figured in Pinkerton's *Medallic History* xxiv, 11, and is in Vertue's *Coins and Medals of Simon*, xxi. In the British Museum is an original specimen. That here engraved, which is somewhat worn, is the property of the Rev. Newdigate Poyntz,

The history of these medals is somewhat obscure. A certain number of badges were made of an oval form and distributed by a few of the Generals (we do not know if Major-General Poyntz was one) to the soldiers under their respective commands. No medals were issued for general distribution amongst all the Parliamentary forces. But the Pieces, such as this of Major-General Poyntz, were only, so far as we can discover, a fancy of the medalist and not official in any way. They may have been complimentary presents by the medalists to the General, who gave him the commission.

Several garrisons still held out after the surrender of the King, but when these yielded the state of affairs was entirely changed. It is not, however, our intention to inflict upon the reader a political dissertation, for doubtless the political condition of the country is as familiar to him as to the writer. We shall therefore limit our remarks thereon to the effect it had on the subject of our memoir.

The first business of importance contemplated was the disbandment of the army, not to be complete at first, for we find that on the 29th March 1647 it was resolved by the House of Commons that four regiments of horse be kept up for England, to consist wholly of Englishmen, whereof Colonel Poyntz's to be one.¹ Nevertheless the Presbyterian faction, who possessed a strong majority in the House, were determined upon this measure and intended to cast the soldiers adrift without granting them the arrears of pay due to them, extending over a year. The Independents, however, whose leaders were men of far greater shrewdness and ability than those of their rivals, secretly desired to keep the troops, whom they officered, still embodied, and disband the Presbyterian regiments. This was a manœuvre under the influence of Cromwell, believing that if a general disbandment took place the Presbyterians would come to some arrangement with the king and restore the monarchy which they had no desire to see effected.

The army, however, refused to be disbanded unless it was accompanied by a full discharge of all the claims for arrears of pay due to them, and in this they were secretly supported by Cromwell and the Independent leaders. A great amount of insubordination arose, so great indeed that Sir Thomas Fairfax, the Commander-in-Chief, though he was greatly beloved by his soldiers, who had followed him in many a weary march, and into the thick of many a deadly fight, and would still follow him whithersoever he would lead on military

rector of Stone, Staffordshire. We have also to thank Reg. Stuart Poole, Esq., Keeper of the Medals in the British Museum, for a cast of the beautiful example in his charge.

¹ Commons' Journals, vol. v, 128.

service, was quite unable to control them upon the points at issue between the army and the Parliament. The soldiers selected two officers and two soldiers from every regiment, whom they called adjutors or agitators, to look after their interests and represent them in their contention with the authorities, and at the same time spread the spirit of disaffection. This disaffection shewed itself in the army of the north under Skippon, Cromwell, Ireton, and others. As early as the middle of May open insubordination arose in Essex. Poyntz was a zealous Presbyterian and endeavoured to keep the northern army loyal to the Parliament. As early, however, as the 15th of June, Major General Poyntz reported to the Speaker that a Surgeon of Colonel Copley's regiment marched the said Colonel's own troop through Leeds to a rendezvous, where some few troops met them upon the moor near Leeds, when the surgeon read to the soldiers some papers and told them that the army in the south desired they should join with them, and that they desired nothing of the Parliament but their arrears and an act of indemnity, and that if they had not an act of indemnity they would most of them be hanged when they were reduced. This meeting was not successful, and another rendezvous was appointed for the following day, and the soldiers were told by the agitators that all which did not march with them they would take their horses and arms from them. Major Lilburne the brother of Col. Lilburne took part. General Poyntz adds, "there are some here that dispute my commission. I humbly desire, if the honourable House think me worthy of the command I hitherto have had, I may have a letter from the House to that effect, and I will venture my life, goods and blood in the service of the Parliament as I have hitherto done." And he requests instructions as to what he should do with such men as come to make a mutiny among the forces who have been thus long civil. He adds: "while I am writing this, I am informed of a second rendezvous yesterday (which must have been that mentioned above), according to their former appointment where they met a double number, and some of them returned to their quarters with blue and white ribbons in their hats as token of their engagement." He says that Lilburne was there, and went that night to Pontefract which was to be the head quarters of the design, and that under covert of that castle they intended to raise a body of horse and foot if they were not prevented. In conclusion, he says, "the fair pretence of these men for the arrears and indemnity does so much take with the soldier, that I have cause to fear that if they have not some present encouragement, a great party of the army will be drawn away."

He encloses a General Order which he had sent to all the officers throughout the army of the north, which here follows. It is dated at York, on the 17th

June, 1647, and the text of the letter shows that it was written the same day.

YORK, June 17, 1647.

“IT IS ORDERED, that all Captains, both of horse and foot, under my command, shall call together their respective troops and companies, and let them understand that the Parliament of England have ordered, that all soldiers that have served in their service since the beginning of this war shall forthwith have all their arrears paid them, and an act of indemnity be passed for all they have done in time of hostility. It is therefore ordered, that no trooper or foot soldier shall meet at any rendezvous whatsoever, without order from me. But if any soldier have any grievances to be made known, whereby to have redress, that he repair to me, and I will give him satisfaction.”

Sedenham Poyntz.¹

On the 22nd June the above letter and the order enclosed were read in the House of Commons, and it was resolved by the House that Colonel-General Poyntz should give orders for keeping in quiet such regiments of horse and foot as were formerly in his command until the House take further order; and that a letter be prepared, in answer to Colonel-General Poyntz's letter, to communicate unto him this vote; and to direct him that if any persons shall come thither to disturb those forces to apprehend them and acquaint the House therewith; and that he do communicate the matter to the rest of the officers.² The Lords concurred the following day.

On the 3rd July a report was received of great mutinies at Chester, and a letter from Colonel-General Poyntz, dated from York on the 26th June, was read, stating that he had issued a general order for preventing all disturbances in his forces.³

These ordinances of the Houses were sent in the usual manner to Sir Thomas Fairfax, the commander-in-chief, to communicate to Colonel-General Poyntz, and the latter on the 26th June, writes to the Speaker informing him that his (Poyntz's) messenger bringing from the General the said ordinances “was stayed by the guards of his Excellency's army, and carried to Commissary General Ireton and Colonel Whalley, notwithstanding that he shewed the General's pass.” And he complains that the General “had some three letters to me, and one to the Lord Valentia, which were opened; the one letter to me was from a Dutch Merchant, which they still detain from me; the other from a worthy member of the honourable House.” He adds that, “in Pontefract is the

¹ It may be mentioned here that Sir Sydenham Poyntz always wrote his name Sedenham or Sednham. Commons' Journals, vol. v, 218. Cary's Memorials of the Civil War, Vol. I, pp. 233, 237.

² Commons' Journals, vol. v, p. 219.

³ Commons' Journals, vol. v, 232.

consulting place, where Major Lilburne and the rest of these discontented men do endeavour to make these disturbances.”¹

It is not improbable that General Poyntz was somewhat harsh and rigid in carrying out the orders of Parliament, for it is stated that at the disbanding of Colonel Poyntz's Brigade at York, the commander with great difficulty restrained them by his individual and resolute exertions, and at the peril of his life.²

On the 6th July, in the afternoon, two letters from Colonel-General Poyntz from York were again read, and it was resolved that the Committee of the North do meet tomorrow in the afternoon, notwithstanding the adjournment of the House, and to take care for the speedy sending down £10,000, formerly assigned for the forces of the Northern Association. A letter to be signed by Mr. Speaker to be sent to Colonel General Poyntz.³

If an officer so justly popular and beloved by his troops as the gallant and able Sir Thomas Fairfax had failed to preserve order and subordination among the forces under his command, we cannot be surprised that General Poyntz, who, we have every reason to believe, was a hot-tempered and severe man, was not more successful. He doubtless continued to struggle to the utmost of his power to suppress the insurrection among his troops, but such struggles were unavailing. The soldiers were supported in their insubordination by the inflammatory addresses of the agitators, encouraged by the leading officers of the Independent faction. Poyntz could not be drawn aside from his duty, and consequently it was determined by the conspirators that he must be removed by force. Hence followed the outrageous violence described in the following remarkable letters printed from the original holographs, preserved amongst the Tanner MSS. in the Bodleian Library at Oxford.

The first is from Sir HENRY CHOLMELEY to Mr. SPEAKER LENTHALL—

“Sir,—I am (I thank God) gotten well into Yorkshire where y^e Parliam^t hath now I farre (feare) more ennemies than Friendes. The countrey in generall looking upon Sir Thomas Fairfax his army as y^t w^{ch} they hope will bring them a suddeine peace w^{ch} they would willingly have upon any tearmes and Major Lylburne hath so well agitated amongst the soldiers y^t they (I meane the common souldiers) are just in same catt wth those in the South and by baite of getting their arreares is so pleasing and acceptable, that I believe many officers connive at y^e businesses. And this day the souldiers sent some Troopers to Yorke whoe have taken Coll. Poyntz out of his house and for his first lodging carry him to Pontefract and whither after is not yett knoune to me. As affaires now stand I am sure it

¹ Cary's Memorials, i, p. 264.

² Historical Introduction, p. 320.

³ Commons' Journal p. 236.

will concearne boath y^e Parliam^t and army to make a speedye closure boath o^r y^e differences (if any yett be) betwixt them and likewise of the settlem^t and peace of the Kingdom for otherwise (I feare) Clubbs and Clouted shoes will be in y^e end too hard for them boath. Sir if any occasion offer ittselfe I hope you will not forgett to present my petition to y^e House and yⁿ will thereby very much oblieg,

“S^r,

“Yo^r most humble servant,

“July 8th.

“HENRY CHOLMELY.

“For Will Lenthall, Esq^r.,

“Speaker of the Comons House,

“this

“present.”

From General SYDENHAM POINTZ to Mr. SPEAKER LENTHALL—

“Sir,—On Thursday last I was apprehended by a partie of the agitators wich are in this partes in my own house and brought by fors and set on horseback without boutes or schous on my leges and soe my hors was led through the Ceitty at Yorke with a partye before and behind with dran sardes and pistols and when they cam a myl out of York they stayed with me in a hous ontill I rescifed a pare of bouts and then they marched away with me to Pomfret town and a pone my intreaty to the agitators Coll. Offerton was sent for to desire him to com to speeke with me and being com upon his engagement and myn to them that I should apier before them wen they demanded me I had lefe to walk into the Casttell with Coll. Offerton hou is pleased to use mee with all seiffeility as allsoe the agitators now. I hope the honnorable hous will not seie mee souffer for wat I haf don by your honnors horders and if I hafe don anythinge contrarye to order weich I am sartain kan not be mad a pier I desire a fayre tryall beefour such justis as the hon^{ble} hous shall thinke feitt. My goods are arested in Yorke by the agetators. I desire your honnors will be pleased to geif order that they be souff^d to com up to London where I shall be ready to geif an account of what kan be demanded from mee. Sir, I sent a letter to you datted the 3 of this instant and I desired Coll. Lyonall Copley to present it to you, the contents of my letter was that I desire [to] laiye down my commichchon—if that letter be not presented I desire that it may be called for and notice taken of the date thereof. I all soe humlie desire that the hon^{ble} hous wil be pleased to rit to his exlncy that I may hafe lefe to come to London upon my engagement to apier where and when

the honuable hous shall ples—leiffing all theis prumeisseis to the consideration of the honnorabell hous and reman

“Your

“Lordschipes most humbell and
fath foull Sarfant

“SEDNHAM POYNTZ ¹

“Pontfract, 9 July, 1647.

For the Hon^{ble} William Lenthall,
“Speaker of the hon^{ble} house of Commons,
“hast, hast.”

From the wife of General POYNTZ to Mr. SPEAKER LENTHALL—

“Hon^{ble} Sir,—Maie it please you to reciave and peruse a few lines from a disconsolate woman a pilgrim and strianger in yo^r kingdom whose Husband hath been a servant and souldier for the State and allway as (soe far as he knowes) obedient to the comande and affected to the cause of the Parliam^t, but now by what authority or for what offence she knowes not, Hee is become Prisoner to his souldiers and carried to Pontefract Castle.—Hee was fetched out of the City of Yorke out of his owne House by a party of Horse and somewhat contrary to the quallitie of a gentleman, but I am sure contrary to his fidelity to the Parliament and to the power and authority they had trusted him with. Carried away in his slippers not suffered to express any conjugal comfort or courtesie to me his wife at his departure and what will be the doom they will pass on him I cannot tell. Besides as his person soe his estate is under their comande his goods stopped by them and ceased upon in the carriers hand with comande not to be removed till further order. Sir, hath my Husband hazarded his life in winter seiges in hott servis in desprate and dangerous battells to be thus blasted and trampled upon, and must I that came a wife and a gentlewoman into this kingdom goe a widdow and a beggar. I hope the equity and mercy of the Parliam^t and of others alsoe, and the care of their honor in foreane Kingdoms will be such as not to let my Husband perish in the hand of them that hate him for nothings but his reallity and stability to the Parliam^t in waitinge their comande. I beseech you therefore comiserate me and communicate these to them that may relieve me for here I live mourning and the want of my Husband and the scorne and reproach of them towards whome my Husband thought he carried himself with civility. Sir, this is the petition of a poore sojourner who shall waite with prayers what answer the Hon^{ble} house shall returne

¹ See facsimile of this subscription, Plate vi, No. 1.

for whome my husband nowe suffers bondes and impris^{nt} but pittie the sadness of her whoe relyes upon your answer and whoe is

“Sr, Your most humble seruant,

“ELISABETH POYNTS.¹

“Julye y^e 9th 1647.

“For the Hon^{ble} William Lenthall, Esq^r., Speaker of the

“Hon^{ble} Hous of Comons

“these

“London.”

These letters having been read to the House, the House immediately resolved that copies be sent in a letter signed by Mr. Speaker to the General (Sir Thomas Fairfax), and that he be desired to take effectual course that the said Colonel-General Poyntz be forthwith enlarged, and that the goods belonging unto him be forthwith restored. It was also ordered that a letter be sent by Mr. Speaker to the Mayor of York as regards the goods.²

Rough draft of a letter from Speaker LENTHALL (not in his writing however) to General FAIRFAX, in obedience to the order of the House. (Unsigned)

“My Lord,—The house of Comons having by letters from Coll. Geneⁿ Pointz understood the violence done him by some of his souldiers by imprison^t of his p^{son} and seizure of his goods they comanded me to let you know that you are required to take a sudden and effectuall course that all such goods of what kind soever as belong to him and are in the Citty of Yorke be ymmediately delivered to him and his wife or such p^{sons} as either of them shall appoint w^{ch} this house desireth shal be done upon yo^r receipt hereof, w^{ch} being all at present I have in comand to trouble you wth

I rest, &c.

“Leres to the G^rall Co^m. Coll. Pointz.

(Not signed.)

“July 9th, 1647.”

It is shewn by the Chancery Proceedings which we have quoted (ante, p. 159) that William Poyntz states that his brother Sydenham was an absolute Protestant, and on his return to England he adhered to the Presbyterian party in their struggle with the Independents, and thereby made Cromwell and Lambert, among the officers who disliked his activity in suppressing the military

¹ For facsimile of this subscription, see Plate vi, Nò. 2.

² Commons' Journals, vol. v, 245.

N^o 1.

*Facsimile of Subscription to Letter from Sir Sydenham Poyntz
to Mr Speaker Lenthall, undated, but 9th July, 1647.*

Ex. f. tipz most humble
fate füll servant
Sydenham Poyntz.

N^o 2.

*Facsimile of Subscription to Letter of the same date
from Lady Poyntz, to the same*

yr most humble servant
Elisabeth Poyntz

disorder, his enemies, as well as Ireton and the Independent leaders generally. Moreover, this was the great crisis of the struggle between the two factions for supremacy. Cromwell, by his subtlety, genius, and strength of will, was the leading spirit in the army, and hesitated not to conduct the correspondence with the Parliament against the will of the General, appending the General's name without his knowledge or sanction. In the beginning of June 1647 the Presbyterians had a considerable majority and the Independent leaders thought that if they could remove some of the chief Presbyterians, if only temporarily, they would be able to do what they pleased. Accordingly they trumped up fictitious charges against eleven of the leading Presbyterians, and on the 16th June, the time of the insubordination of the Northern Army reported by General Poyntz, eleven members were formally impeached, and consented to absent themselves from the House until they had cleared themselves from the charges brought against them.¹

After what had taken place in the army of the north it was of course impossible, considering the disordered condition of the country, that Poyntz could continue to hold the command, and accordingly, through the influence of Cromwell, he was superseded by Lambert.

Upon the consent of the impeached members to withdraw, the officers who had adhered to their party belonging to the City Militia had been removed, and Independents put into their places, and when the House met on the 26th July, the Common Council came with a petition from the militia, asking to be replaced under the Presbyterians. The Lords and Commons adhered to their former decision. The houses of Parliament were invaded by a mob of apprentices and the riff raff of the city. Some fifty or more succeeded in forcing their way into the House of Commons and refused to leave until the House had repealed the obnoxious Ordinance. After this act of violence the members of both Houses took refuge with Sir Thomas Fairfax. Preparations were then commenced in the city to raise troops and resist the advance of the army, the lord mayor and aldermen, on 31 July, appointed General Massey commander in chief of their army,² and Sir William Waller as lieutenant general of horse, and all *reformadoes*, as unattached officers and soldiers were called, were invited to muster in St. James Fields, and we read that in the afternoon of 31st July, General Massey, Sir William Waller and Colonel General Poyntz were enlisting the *Reformadoes*.³

At a sitting of the Common Council at the Guildhall, on the 2nd August,

¹ Markham's Life of Fairfax, p. 288.

² Commons' Journals, vol. v, 261.

³ Rushworth, vol vi, p. 647.

divers officers of the trained bands and others of the borough of Southwark petitioned that they might not be forced to levy arms or go forth in a hostile manner under any command but such as should be approved by the generality of the Borough, but left to defend themselves. A petition was also presented by many thousand well affected citizens, praying that some means might be used for a composure, &c., at which time it is stated Colonel General Poyntz and some other officers of the new list, attended for orders of the militia, came into the Guildhall yard amongst the petitioners, and in a cruel manner with their swords hacked and hewed many of them, and mortally wounded others, whereof some are since dead.¹ A similar petition was presented to Parliament on 24th August, the two Houses, having in the mean time been re-instated by Sir Thomas Fairfax, reciting the circumstances and stating that of the assaulted persons one, if not more, had been killed and many wounded, and the petitioners prayed for the apprehension and punishment of all who aided in or abetted these outrages. The army was greatly incensed against Poyntz for these proceedings, and could hardly be prevented from falling upon him and the new listed men.² An accommodation was, however, quickly come to between the city and the army, and the matter passed over, and Generals Massey and Poyntz withdrew to Holland. On the 6th August these officers published a long and dignified "Declaration shewing the true Grounds and Reasons that induced them to depart from the City, and for a while from the Kingdom. With their Resolutions which they intend for their own Safety and the preservation of Religion and Covenant, and the King and Kingdom." The document is too long even to be abstracted here. They say "finding all things so uncertain and nothing answering to what was promised or expected, we hold it safer Wisdom to withdraw to our Friends whom we have always found fast and entire in their first Principles than continue with those, who like Waves are beaten with every Wind, and do take or receive Counsels as their Fears do prompt them."³

We have given an account of the services of Sir Sydenham Poyntz in greater detail than we should have done had it not appeared to us that he had received but scant justice from the standard histories of the Civil War. So far as we know Clarendon does not mention his name, but it is clear, from the extracts we have given from the Journals of the House of Commons, that Parliament fully recognised the value of his services.

Among the Civil War Tracts is one entitled—The Vindication of Collonell

¹ Rushworth, vol. vii, p. 741.

² Rushworth, vol. vii, p. 750.

³ Rushworth, vol. vii, p. 765

General Poyntz against the false and Malitious slanders cast forth against him by the Army, with the barbarous manner of the Adjutators surprisall of him at Yorke in his owne house and carrying of him Prisoner to Pomfret Castle, the incivilities used by them unto his wife, the seizing of his Goods, conveying him as a Fellow or Traitor to the Army, The removing of him by force from his Command by Sir Thomas Fairfax, Cromwell and their adherents in the Army without power or authoritie, and the placing of Collonell Lambert over his forces in his room, by no other power than their owne; as against those many aspersions cast upon him by certain other Sectaries and Independents who conspired together to have taken away his life which they attempted at Guildhall, London, in a tumultuous way assaulting him there for that purpose.¹

Anno 1648.

We give a few Extracts from this Pamphlet.

“I was made by an Ordinance of a free and full Parliament, Major-General and Commander-in-Chief over all the Parliament’s force in the seaven northern

¹This Vindication was immediately followed by a series of pamphlets from both parties, vieing in abuse and scurrility, and exhibiting the bitterness which existed among those who could agree to persecute the King, and shewing the temper of the times.

1. A speedy hue and Cry after General Massey, Col. Poyntz, William Pryn and many other new modelled reformadoes, etc., who are now fled into Scotland and levying an army against Sir Thomas Fairfax. Wherein the Presbyterians are displayed, opened, anatomized and described in their true Colours etc. Printed in the year of Jubilee, 1647, Aug. 10. (An Independent Tract.) (B.M. E 401, (12); F 23035).
2. An Outcry against the speedy hue and cry after General Massie, etc., or an apostrophe to all historicall, comicall, satyricall and tragicall pens, not to see magnanimous Massey, the satyized subject of a pestilential pamphlet. London, 1647, August 18. (A Presbyterian Tract.) (M.B. E 402, (22); F 23033).
3. Virtue and Valor vindicated, or the late hue and cry sent after General Poyntz etc. retorted in the teeth of that scandalous libeller. London, August 19. (A Presbyterian Tract.) (B.M. F 2019).
4. The disconsolate Reformado, a true relation of the sudden change which hath happened between Sir Thomas Fairfax’s Army and Major General Massey and Colonel Poyntz Reformadoes. London, 1647, Aug. 23. (An Independent Tract.)
5. The arraignment and impeachment of Major Generall Massie, Sir William Waller, and others of the house of Commons, Aldermen of the City of London, and other presbyterians. London, 1647, Aug. 23. (An Independent Tract.)
6. General Massies Bartholomew Fairings for Col. Poyntz or the London Reformadoes. 1647, Aug. 23. (An Independent Tract.)
7. The Reformadoes righted. Being an Answer to a Paltry Picce of Poetry, styled General Massey’s Bartholomew Fairings for Col. Poyntz. London, 1647, Sept. 10. (A Presbyterian Tract in rhyme.) B.M. E 406, (13); F 23034. Bibl. Glouc.

counties, and by the tenour of my commission, had as absolute a power and command given me in that association, as Sir Thomas Fairfax had in the south of England.

“I was not designed unto that service without a prooffe and free knowledge of my fidelitie, and their experience of my like performances in many other services and commands, nor did I proceed in this undertaking, as these which followed Christ for the loaves, or as flies doe after a man that carryes an honey box, not for his sake soe much, but for the sweet that is in it. No! it was another principle that Byassed me herein; the Reformation of Religion, the honor and happiness of the King, and the peace and welfare of the Kingdome. I had engaged and sworne a Solemn League and Covenant for the pursuit of theis ends.....

“I was then at York and my wife and family abideing with mee. On July 24th, (?) 1647, in the evening Colonel Lambert, Boriton, Lilburne, Overton and others, emissaries from Sir Thomas Fairfax, came into the City of York, and next morning sent five of their comrades unto my house; they found me walking in my garden unready, without the least suspition of any such event, presented me with a letter which I casting my eyes upon it to read it they said “Sir, I have an order from the Adjutators to apprehend your person and carry you to Pomfret Castle.” Then they suddenly all drew out their swords upon me, and with pistols loaded and cockt, which they had in readines under their cloaks, laid violent hands upon me. Whereupon I entreated them to apparell myself for the journey, and to saddle a horse or two, which they promised I should do. Whereupon I went toward an upper room to make me ready, when my wife following me up the stairs after mee, these miscreants (or Hell-hounds rather) in a most barbarous and uncivill manner, instantly laid violent hands upon her, and pulled her down the stairs backwards with great force upon the ground, wherewithal shee was exceedingly bruised and affrighted, and they set their naked swords upon her breast, and swore they would kill her if she stirred, and otherwise most basely and unworthily abased her, that shee recovered not her strength and the hurt she received of a long time afterwards.

They also pressed hard after me, and laying hold on me also before I entered my chamber doore, with great rage they threwe me on the ground, tearing my clothes from off my back, and in this posture hauled me out of my house by maine strength, and so threwe me on a Jade which they had ready saddled at the doore, and guarded me through the city, marching about me as I had bin some notorious fellow or Traitor, sometimes swearing and cursing mee, and other whiles commanding mee to ride faster, or vowing to runn mee

through the body and shoot me dead, and in this manner they caryed me along from York to Pomfret Castle, the poor Jade had scarce a crows dinner upon his backe, and better understood the whipp than the spurre, and neither to goe from either faster than a snaile will creepe." (He signs his name here as elsewhere "Sedenham Poyntz.")

He was imprisoned at Pontefract for a few days, then taken in custody to Reading where he had to appear before Sir Thomas Fairfax and others, and was released eventually by order of Parliament as shewn above.

He gives a very graphic account of the tumult at Guildhall, London, where he was saluted by the cries "that Rogue Poyntz," and was compelled to defend himself from the malicious attacks of the mob.

Generals Massey and Poyntz had not been long in Holland before the former, in common with the other suspended members of the House of Commons were called upon to appear in their places on or before the 16th October to answer the charges then to be made against them. He at once obeyed the summons and took his seat in Parliament early in September, and voted in the majority 129 to 83 that the king's letter afforded grounds for peace. Colonel Pride's purge on the following day, by which 41 members of the Presbyterian party were seized on entering the House and imprisoned, and 161 more were excluded, left the Independent faction in undisputed possession. They consisted of not more than 50 or 60 members, and this miserable remnant called themselves the House of Commons. The Presbyterians found to their disgust that they had thrown off the gentle authority of the king to find more tyrannical masters in their former colleagues. General Massey and the other Presbyterian leaders were cast into prison, the General in the Tower, whence he escaped not long afterwards in a woman's attire, and again took refuge in Holland, where at the Hague he afterwards cast himself at the feet of Charles II. and obtained pardon, and on the king's expedition to Scotland and fruitless invasion of England Massey received a commission as lieutenant-general. Poyntz, however, would seem to have held aloof for the present. On the 14th May, 1648, he wrote from Amsterdam to the Speaker of the House of Commons applying to Parliament for the arrears of pay due to him, and expresses a hope "that all the good services I have done the Parliament will not be forgotten." We give this letter *in extenso*.

MAJOR-GENERAL POYNTZ to the SPEAKER—

SIR,—I have formerly writ several letters to you, but could not be so happy as to receive an answer, which makes me more importune with my third; especially I being informed, that the forces formerly under my command have received two months pay at their disbanding: so hoping that the honourable houses will esteem

no less of me than of a private soldier, I therefore do earnestly desire, that the honourable houses will be pleased to order that I may receive my two months' pay according to my quality I was in when the Agitators took me prisoner, and forced me out of my command, as the rest of the northern forces have received; and that I may have my debentures as the rest: and do hope that all the good services which I have done the parliament of England will not be forgotten.

Methinks, when I peruse the letters which I have formerly received from both houses of parliament, with all their great promises and engagements to me, neither to forget the great services which I have done them at Worcester, Chester, Newark, Pontefract, Sandall, Welbeck, Worken, before Cassall, and many other places of the kingdom, well known to you most; it would almost make a man desperate to see how I am deserted and slighted, in place of the great rewards which the honourable houses were pleased to promise me. And believe me, Sir, that those letters are by me kept as a great jewel, to let the world see what services I have done the kingdom, and how I am rewarded.

But yet I hope that these my just desires will not be denied, that I may have no other occasion than to pray for your happy proceedings: and remain,

Sir,

Your most humble and faithful Servant,

From Amsterdam,

SEDENHAM POYNTZ.

May 14th, 1648.

I humbly desire an answer hereof.¹

We do not find that this dignified letter was ever formally submitted to the House of Commons, and, though it has been already printed, the details which it gives of the services of Major-General Poyntz and its general character are we think a sufficient reason for introducing it here. It is evident that the General had been misinformed as to the course which the Parliament had taken in respect to the arrears of pay due to the northern army. Nothing had then been done. Nine days afterwards, viz, on the 23rd May, 1648, an Ordinance was passed in the House of Commons for the issue of the sum of £5000 formerly granted for the officers and soldiers under the command of Major-General Poyntz out of the Excise, with interest to the time of the order; and it was ordered to be sent unto the Lords for their concurrence,² which concurrence was reported to the Commons on the 26th following.³

¹ Cary's Memorials Vol. i. p. 418.

² Commons' Journals Vol. v. p. 573.

³ Ibid p. 580.

We cannot doubt but that General Poyntz participated in this grant. Probably his letter from Amsterdam had not been received when the Ordinance was passed, and afterwards it was unnecessary to present it to the House.

After the death of the king General Poyntz seems to have become reconciled to the ruling powers, and to have been sent as Governor to St. Christophers, in the room of Sir William Berkeley, which, like Antigua, with which island it was associated, strongly resisted Cromwell and in 1651, seeing the inhabitants of the island generally well affected, he quitted that place and went to Virginia.¹ Oldrington states that Sir George Ayscue sailed to Virginia, having on board Colonel Poyntz, Governor of St. Christophers, and remarks that the name of Poyntz shows how groundless as well as vain is that reproach of Earl of Clarendon "that Parliament made tradesmen governors instead of gentlemen."²

It is probable that General Poyntz remained in Virginia several years and acquired property there, but upon the Restoration, when Antigua which at the first had resolutely resisted Cromwell, as stated above, now as strenuously held out for the Commonwealth, Charles II. in 1661 appointed Poyntz, who had now submitted to the Royal Authority to act as governor, which appointment he held until 1663. In this year the king granted the whole Island to Lord Francis Willoughby, of Parham, in recognition of his loyalty and the great services he had rendered to the Royal cause, and Sydenham Poyntz again retired to Virginia. During the period he was resident in Antigua he owned and planted an estate called by him Cassada Gardens, a name which it still bears.³ We conclude that Sydenham Poyntz now finally settled in Virginia and died there, for we have no further traces of him.

As we have seen (ante p. 137) it is stated by Aubrey that Sir Denham [Sydenham] Poyntz married Ann Eleanora de Count Stephanus de Casy in Wurtemberg,⁴ but unless he had married another foreign lady this must be an error, for in Mrs. Poyntz's letter of the 9th July to the Parliament, on the subject of her husband's seizure and her own ill-treatment, she signs herself "Elizabeth Poyntz," and describes herself as coming "a wife and a gentlewoman into this kingdom."⁵ Sir Sydenham in his letter of the same date and upon the same

¹ Whitelock's Memorials.

² History of the Stuarts, Vol. i, p. 401.

³ Antigua and the Antiguans, Vol. i, p. 20.

⁴ History of Surrey.

⁵ Commons' Journal, Vol. v, p. 245, and Cary's Memorials of the Civil War.

subject states that he was living at York with his wife and *family*. From this it may be concluded that he had children, but perhaps the word family may refer only to servants. If he had children we know not of them. No children are mentioned in the complaint and appeal of his wife which we conclude would have been the case had any existed.

We have prefaced this Chapter with a portrait of Sir Sydenham Poyntz (Plate V), engraved from the original in the possession of Earl Spencer.¹ Sir Sydenham was undoubtedly a most able, vigilant and gallant soldier, who by tactical skill as a commander and personal bravery rendered to the Parliamentary cause essential service, which, we have seen, was very ill requited. Grainger writes of him:—"It has been said that his views on entering upon this war were purely patriotic, and that he was never known to be influenced by covetousness or ambition when he had frequent opportunity of gratifying these passions;"² and the details of his services which we have given fully confirm this opinion.

¹ This engraving was unknown to Grainger, who notices the medal, but prints the epigraph inaccurately.

² Grainger's Hist. of England, vol. ii, p. 158.

POYNTZ OF BENEFIELD.

CHAPTER VII.

Newdigate Poyntz was the youngest son of John Poyntz and Ann Sydenham. He was baptized at Reigate 16th Nov. 1608, and was the founder of the family of Poyntz of Benefield, co. Northants. We do not know in what manner, or at what date, he acquired the lands in Benefield, but it appears from the parish registers that he was resident there as early as 1628. He was thrice married. His first wife was Sarah daughter and youngest child of Francis Foxley of Harringworth, in the same county, Esq., by Mary his wife, daughter of John Dryden of Canons Ashby in the same county, one of whose sons, Richard Foxley, married Susan, sister of the said Newdigate. By this marriage Newdigate had issue four sons and four daughters, of whom two of his daughters died in infancy in their father's life time, his wife Sarah having died in May 1636 at the birth of the youngest.

By his will, dated 24th Nov. 1617, Francis Foxley devised to John Foxley his son and heir, and to his other sons in fee tail, his lands in Foxley and the Manor of Harringworth,¹ and in this will his daughter Sarah, then unmarried, is named as a legatee, and by indentures dated 18th June 1633, the aforesaid John Foxley and his brothers and sisters, among whom we find Newdigate Pointz of Benefield, Northants, Gent., and Sarah his wife, one of the daughters of the aforesaid Francis Foxley, in consideration of the sum £5330 conveyed to a certain Peter Tryon certain lands in Harringworth, Bulwich, Wakerley, Laxton, &c., in the aforesaid county, described as late parcel of the possessions of the said Francis Foxley, deceased, and willed and devised to the said John Foxley and his brothers and sisters.²

By indentures dated 20th Sept. 1636, a few months only after the death of his first wife, Newdigate Poyntz entered into a contract of marriage with Ann Forrest,

¹ Prob. 19th June 1619 (53 Parker).

² Rot. Claus., 9 Charles I, Part 19, No. 22.

one of the daughters of Miles Forrest then late of Peterborough, deceased, by which indentures he conveyed to certain trustees his capital messuage of Benefield, and his lands, &c., in Ashton, near the parish of Oundle, to hold to the use of him, the said Newdigate Poyntz for the term of his life, and after his decease to the use of Thomas Poyntz his son and heir apparent by Sarah his wife, and the heirs male of his body, and in default of such issue to his sons John, Charles, and Francis, second, third and fourth sons of the said Newdigate and Sarah, and their issue in tail male, and in default of such issue to the heirs female begotten upon the body of the said Sarah.¹ This marriage took effect before 30th January 1636-7, for on that day Newdigate Poyntz and Ann Forrest, alias Poyntz, were granted administration of the effects of Miles Forrest her brother; and she was alive on 19th June following when further administration was granted to her husband and herself; but she must have died soon afterwards, for on the 21st December in the same year Newdigate Poyntz, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, married to his third wife Mary, daughter of Aden Parkyns of Dunny, county Notts. By indentures of settlement, made 27th December 1637, upon this marriage, Aden Parkyns for a competent sum of money and for other good and sufficient causes granted to the said Newdigate Poyntz all that Grange called Kellan's Place in Dostthroppe in the parish of Peterborough, sometime the inheritance of the late Earl of Bedford,² and other lands in Paston, Walton, &c., to hold to the said Newdigate and his heirs for ever.³

In the great constitutional struggle which arose soon afterwards Newdigate Poyntz maintained his loyalty and took the field in the king's cause. His lands were, of course, sequestrated, and on 30th April 1643 he petitioned to compound. In the particulars of his estates as returned he is described as Newdigate Poyntz of Dostthropp, Northants. He held a lease from Lord Fitz William from Thomas Jennings of lands in Peterborough parish of the yearly value, before the wars, of £90. Rent reserved in the said lease, £80. Lands of Borough Barry Manor near Dostthropp held of the Bishop of Peterborough, value before the wars, £30. These copyholds he surrendered before the war to Mary Barkham, widow, as security for the sum of £432.

Newdigate Poyntz was slain in the service of the king at Gainsborough on the 5th August in the same year,⁴ when Cromwell raised the siege of that town,

¹ Inq. p. m. of the said Newdigate Poyntz, Wards and Liveries, 23rd Charles, Bund. 68, No. 145.

² Edward Russell, 3rd Earl, died 1627, s.p. ³ Rot. Claus., 13th Charles I, Part 22, No. 14.

⁴ It is stated in a deposition in Chancery by Thomas Jones of Orton, co. Hunts, in 1691 that Newdigate Poyntz, here called "Capt. Poyntz was killed at Naseby Fight in the service of the

at which time Sir Charles Cavendish, the General of the royal forces, with many more commanders and some hundreds of soldiers also fell.¹ He left a family of eleven children, six by his first wife, as we have already seen, and by his third wife, who survived him, five, for particulars of whom see tabular pedigree (post), and on the Inquisition taken at Northampton after his death, 17th October, 21st Charles, it was found that Thomas his son was his nearest heir, and was aged 14 years and 6 months.²

Newdigate Poyntz made his will on the 26th March 1639, and directed that his body should be "buried in the School at Benefield, it being part of the Church, near my first wife and our two children." Devises his "lands in Dosthorpe, lately purchased of my father Parkinge, to Mary my now well beloved wife, until the leases of her jointure, in Austen Sellars and Bisbury, be expired in Ashton." The inheritance thereof he gives to his son Newdigate Poyntz and his heirs, if he die to the next heir male of Mary Poyntz by him begotten, then to his (testator's) son John Poyntz, then to Francis Poyntz, testator's son, and his heirs, and it is provided that whoever shall first lay claim to these lands shall pay £1000 to be divided among the children he had by this first wife Sarah Poyntz, "no way inheriting my land at Benefield and Ashton by me intayled upon them." This £1000 secured upon Dosthorpe to be paid to his children at the age of 21, the use thereof meanwhile for their maintenance. His wife Mary, who is to have a share of his personal estate, is appointed executrix.³

This will, as we shall see presently, was the fruitful source of several Chancery Suits.

Mary Poyntz, the relict, appears in April 1646 to have appealed to Parliament with reference, it is presumed, to the sequestration of her deceased husband's estate, and her brother-in-law, Major General Sir Sydenham Poyntz, wrote to the Speaker, William Lenthall, in her behalf, for we have the following letter from the Speaker to the Committee at Goldsmith's Hall.

"30th April 1646—Gent". The Bearers late Husband Capt. Newdigate Poyntz, having been in Arms about 3 years since, and he now being dead, and she left with five young children, her case hath been specially recommended to me by

King;" but in this he must have been mistaken, for the battle of Naseby took place on Saturday, 14th June 1643, whereas the Inquisition taken after his death finds that he died 5th August, and this agrees with the statement of his son Charles Poyntz in his petition to the king in 1660, that his father was slain in the royal service at Gainsborough. It is also alleged in several depositions that he was slain at the siege of Newark, but the date of his death does not agree therewith.

¹ Life of Colonel Hutchinson, p. 137.

² Inq. p.m. 21st Oct., 21st Charles, Wards and Liveries, Bund. 68, No. 145.

³ Prob. to Mary Poyntz, Relict, 27th Feb. 1644-5 (34 Rivers).

her Brother, Major General Poyntz, now at the siege of Newark, that you and the House might be acquainted therewith, he making it his request that she might receive favour for his sake, which I am confident the House will do. Nevertheless she desires herewith to present herself and her case unto you, which I shall, upon sight, according to the desire of General Poyntz acquaint you withal and the House, when it shall come together.”¹

We do not know the exact object of this appeal, or whether it was successful or otherwise, but can scarcely doubt that a request made by Major General Poyntz who had rendered, and was at that moment rendering, such eminent services to the Parliament could be denied.

In the year 1649 Mary Poyntz remarried one Thomas Tedcastle, and in 1651 commenced the first of the suits in Chancery relative to the property of her husband Newdigate Poyntz as devised by his will to her and her children subject to certain payments. The proceedings herein afford so much information relative to the family that it would seem to be desirable very briefly to abstract them.

On 20th November 1651 John Poyntz of Benefield, Gent., John Owsley of Whittlebury, Northants, Clerk, and Dorothy his wife, one of the daughters of Newdigate Poyntz, late of Benefield, Gent., deceased : Francis Poyntz, an apprentice in the City of London, and Mary Poyntz, Gentlewoman, sons and daughter of the said Newdigate Poyntz, deceased, infants, by Thomas Foxlie of the City of Westminster, Clerk, their guardian, after reciting the will of the said Newdigate Poyntz, dated 26th March 1639 (already abstracted ante, p. 185), and the fact of the death of the said Newdigate, and that his relict Mary Poyntz proved the said will and became possessed of all the rents and personal estate of her husband, that she caused the personal estate to be appraised, and assigned thereof £300 to one Mr. Lane, an attorney, and sold or otherwise embezzled the other part, and has entered on the lands in Dosthorpe and surrendered the same to Sir Edward Barkeham,² Knt., William Hale, Esq., and other persons unknown, with the object of defrauding the petitioners of their several portions. That the said Mary Poyntz hath lately intermarried with one Thomas Tedcastle, and they have not paid one penny of the use-money for the said £1000 given to the petitioners by the said will, and they have, notwithstanding, entered upon the said lands of Dosthorpe and received the rents and made fraudulent conveyances.

Charles Poyntz, brother to the said petitioners, is lately dead since the making and proving of the will, and his share ought to come to the petitioners

¹ Royalist Comp. Papers.

² Sir Edward Barkham of Southaker, Northants, knighted at Greenwich, 30th June 1623.

to be divided amongst them, and Mary Poyntz refuses to do this. They have no remedy at common law and call for satisfaction upon the several points at issue.

Mary Poyntz in her answer states that Newdigate Poyntz died leaving eleven children, whereof six he had by his former wife, and five by the defendant Mary Poyntz. She had at the time of Newdigate Poyntz's death bonds, &c. in the name of Myles Forest and Cicely Forest amounting to £600. Her husband was bound in £800 to Joseph Hunt for the payment of £400, and Joseph Hunt obtained a judgment for the same. Her husband's estates were sequestered for delinquency at Dosthorpe, Benefield, and Aston. The personal estate was assigned to Lane, and the bonds were delivered up to the committee at Northampton, and she hath no money beyond £150 which the Earl of Newcastle was pleased to bestow upon her towards the payment of her husband's funeral expenses and soldiers' quarters in and about Newark, in the said garrison, all which sums she did disburse accordingly. She denies all the other statements at length, and enters into an explanation and refutation of the charges against her.

Thomas Tedcastle says that not two years since he married Mary Poyntz as a stranger to all the passages and charges in the said bill, neither hath he any thing to do with the lands of Dosthorp, &c.¹

What the decree was in this suit we know not, and we pass on now; but we shall find other suits crop up many years later as we proceed.

Of Thomas Poyntz, son and heir of Newdigate Poyntz by his first wife Sarah Foxley, and of his issue, we shall treat presently. We will first bring under the notice of the reader some account of his younger children by this marriage.

John Poyntz, second son, was born in 1629-30, and as we have seen (ante, p. 188), was one of the parties, by Thomas Foxlie, Clerk, his guardian, he then being described as an infant, though he must, at that time, 20th November 1651, have been of full age, in the suit in Chancery, Poyntz *v.* Tadcaster, relative to the lands of Dostthropp, and he appears again in his own person as complainant in a suit on the same subject in 1691,² and again in a revived suit in 1699, in which his sisters, Dorothy Owsley and Mary Crosby, and others, were associated with him as complainants in a suit, Pointz *v.* Davison.³ He was a captain in the navy, and in the suit just cited is described as of

¹ Royalist Comp. Papers, Bills and Answers, Bridges, No. 26.

² Chancery Depositions, Poyntz and others *v.* Clark and wife.

³ Chancery Proceedings, Richardson's List, 1692-1714, Part 2, No. 138 (Brown 477).

Dartford, co. Kent, Esq. He married one Alice Brown of that place and died, and was buried there on 12th August 1712, being described in the Register as Captⁿ John Poyntz. His wife predeceased him a few days, having been buried on the 23rd of the preceding month. They left issue an only child, Alice Poyntz, who married Charles Manning of Dartford, Esq.¹ He died in August 1619, and Alice his relict administered to his estate on the 26th of the same month, and herself died in the month following; and on the 15th October in the same year further administration was granted to Charles Manning their son.

Francis Poyntz, fourth son and fifth child of Newdigate Poyntz by his first marriage, was born in January 1632-3, and in the Chancery suit of 1651 we have just cited is described as being then an apprentice in London. His business was that of an upholsterer or upholder. In 1658 he married at St. Bartholomew the less one Catherine Bates. On the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660, describing himself as Citizen and Upholster of London, and setting forth that Newdigate Poyntz his father, being a Captain under Colonel Cavendish in the service of his late Majesty of blessed Memory, was slain in the service near Gainsborough, and left him and ten other children in the care of a stepmother, by which service he and all his relations lost their estate, he therefore humbly prays the king to confer upon him the Place and Duty of Upholsterer to his Majesty's Court. In this application he would seem not only to have been successful but to have obtained other employment under the Crown. In 1666 we find him supplying Sail-cloth for the Navy, on the 1st March in which year John Harris reports to the Navy Commissioners that Mr. Poyntz's canvas is worth 16d. or 12d. a yard, not considering the rise in price from the previous scarcity of canvas² and a tender from him to supply Bridewell sail-cloth at 1s. 6d. a yard was accepted.³ In the same year we find him in conjunction with others supplying Timber for the Navy.⁴

In March 1673-4 an exchequer warrant was issued to pay *Thomas Poyntz*, yeoman, arras maker to his majesty, £1000, on account for tapestry hangings made and to be made into the great wardrobe, out of such moneys as are in arrear to his majesty from Bevis Lloyd, Esq., upon his account next after such moneys as

¹ Charles Manning was the owner of the Phoenix Mills at Dartford, and was remarkable for his zeal in the improvement of the interior of the church. At his own expense he renewed the pavement within the altar rails and restored the Altar-piece. They left issue several children.—Hist. of Dartford.

² State Papers, Dom. Ch. II, vol. cl, 12.

³ Ibid., vol. cxxxv, 50.

⁴ Ib., fo. 390.

are already assigned thereupon, with directions for striking of a tally for the same. In the Calendar of Names this *Thomas Poyntz* is given as *Francis Poyntz* which is probably correct.¹

We find Francis Poyntz incidentally mentioned in a Chancery suit in 1679. The suit had reference to a messuage, part of Hatton House, Holborn, of which one William Cavill was tenant, and was arrested by one Mary Cavill, widow, for a debt of £37, but he being a protected person it was with much charge and difficulty, but Francis Poyntz, described as of St. Andrew's, Holborn, and William Hewer of St. Martins in the Fields, Esq., became bound for him, but Francis Poyntz (being it is presumed also a protected person as being of the king's household) was discharged upon procuring one Mr. Thomas Poyntz to become bound for the said debt.² From further proceedings in this matter, in which Thomas Poyntz was complainant *v.* Mary Cavill, widow, it appears that the said Thomas was the nephew of Francis Poyntz, which identifies him with Thomas Poyntz of Lambeth.³

Francis Poyntz from St. Brides was buried at St. Andrews 22nd September 1684, his wife Catherine having predeceased him in 1680. By his will dated 8th September 1684, in which he describes himself as Citizen and Upholder of London, he makes his brother William Poyntz, who is similarly described, and his friend Thomas Francklyn, Dr. of Physic, trustees on behalf of his four children, Francis, Thomas, Katherine and Jane Poyntz, and gives to them his dwelling house in Hatton Garden, his Garden and House and Bowling Green in St. James, Clerkenwell, and "my Place in His Majesty's Wardrobe, which I hold during the life of Mr. Edward Rymill and proceeds thereof." To cousin Ann Vennibles, £10,⁴ &c. He had issue ten children of whom it would appear that four only survived him, and of them we are unable to give any further information.

Thomas Poyntz, son and heir of Newdigate Poyntz by Sarah Foxley, his first wife, was baptized at Benefield on 12th January, 1628-9, and after his father's death succeeded to the estate of Benefield in accordance with the settlement of 20th September, 1636, made by his father, Newdigate Poyntz, on his second marriage with Ann Forrest before noticed.

On the 14th February 1670 Thomas Poyntz, described as of Benefield, Esq., and one William Sutton of Ashton, yeom., filed a bill in Chancery reciting Indentures of bargain and sale dated 12th April, 13th James (1615), whereby

¹ Signet Book, Record Office.

² Chanc. Bills. Hamilton, No. 271, Feb. 4, 1679-80.

³ Chanc. Bills and Answers. Mitford, No. 296, m. 22. Poyntz *v.* Cavill.

⁴ Proved by Thomas Francklyn. Power reserved to William Poyntz, 18th Feb. 1684-5 (26 Cann).

Thomas Lawe of Benefield conveyed certain messuages, &c. &c. in Ashton and Oundle to Newdigate Poyntz of Benefield, Esq., father of the said Thomas, for the term of 80 years, at a pepper-corn rent. Thomas Lawe and Dorothy his wife died and Newdigate Poyntz entered into possession, and by Indentures dated 26th of, 12th Charles I, assigned the said premises to a certain John Lynn and others in trust to suffer the said Newdigate to receive the rents, &c. for the term of his life, and after his death remainder to Ann Forrest, whom he intended to marry, for her life, with remainder to the said Thomas Poyntz his son and heir and his heirs male as long as any heirs male of his body should exist. Ann Poyntz died and some years after Newdigate Poyntz was slain at Newark and the said Thomas Poyntz entered into the possession of the premises and enjoyed the same. But one Thomas Lawe, pretending to be a kinsman of the aforesaid Thomas Lawe the vendor, deceased, served an ejectment on William Sutton, a tenant of the said Thomas Poyntz, which being tried at Northampton a verdict was given against the said Thomas Poyntz because he could not produce the original lease. He alleges that it is in the possession of the said Thomas Lawe and others, and solicits a subpoena for them to appear and answer respecting it.¹

In 1676 he was plaintiff in another suit concerning a farm at Slipton, but it does not afford any information concerning him.²

Thomas Poyntz married before 1649 one Mary Herington, of whose parentage we possess no information. She was buried at Benefield 22nd March, 1664-5, and he, on the 26th March, 1677. They left issue four children—1, Mary; 2, Newdigate; 3, Thomas; 4, Robert; of whom in order.

Of Mary Poyntz we need not say anything except that she is named in the will of Sarah, relict of her brother Newdigate, dated in 1706,³ as her sister, and was then unmarried.

Newdigate Poyntz, eldest son born in 1648, matriculated at Cambridge as from St. John's College, 20th May 1665, as son of Thomas Poyntz, Gent., of Benefield, Northants, aged 16. He was admitted at Gray's Inn on 11th May 1668 as "son and heir apparent of Thomas Poyntz of Bradfield" (Benefield?) aforesaid, and was called to the Bar as from that Inn on 3rd April, 1678. On the same day he was granted a licence to marry Mrs. Sarah Taverner of Hexton, co. Herts, widow, aged 28, he being then aged 29. He died s.p. intestate, and was buried at Hexton 20th December, 1701. His wife died in 1706, having

¹ Bills and Answers, Chancery, Trinity, 1671.

² Chancery Proc., Single Bills, Collins, No. 549.

³ Prob. 21st May 1706 (112 Eccles).

made her will on the 15th Nov. 1704, in which she names, *inter alia*, her cousin Thomas Poyntz of London, her sister Mary Poyntz, as mentioned above, her cousin Robert Poyntz of London, distiller, and her cousin Sarah Taverner, and makes the two latter executors and residuary legatees.¹

Thomas Poyntz, second son of Thomas Poyntz of Benefield, and Mary his wife, born in 1650, settled at Lambeth, Surrey, as a merchant, and married Sarah, orphan daughter of Thomas Lane of London, and was entitled to a considerable sum of money remaining in the Chamber of London. The sum of £300, a part of this, was paid to Thomas Poyntz, at his desire, by Order of the Mayor and Aldermen on 3rd December, 1678, on condition of his settling upon her certain premises in Brick Lane, Stepney, which had been demised to him for a term of fifty-eight years at an annual rent of £25.² Thomas Poyntz died in 1688 intestate, and administration of his effects, on the 15th June in that year, was granted to his cousin Newdigate Owsley,³ Guardian assigned to his children, Thomas, Newdigate, and Robert, minors, Sarah Poyntz, his relict renouncing. She died in 1710 intestate, and on the 14th January, 1710-11, administration was granted to her sons Thomas Poyntz and Robert Poyntz.

Thomas Poyntz, the eldest son of Thomas Poyntz and Sarah Lane, settled in St. Martins in the Fields as an Apothecary. He married on 28th Sept., 1703, at St. Bartholomew the Less, London, Isabella Babington of St. Mary's, Savoy, probably a daughter of Michael Babington of St. Margaret's, Westminster, who in his will, dated 11th March 1692, names a daughter Isabella. In 1710 there was a suit in Chancery in which Thomas Poyntz of St. Martin's in the Fields, Apothecary, and Isabella his wife, and Robert Whalley of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, Coal-seller, and Henrietta his wife were plaintiffs, which Isabella and Henrietta are described as two of the sisters of John Babington, late of London, Merchant, deceased, against one Thomas Clarke.⁴ The issue of the marriage of Thomas Poyntz was one daughter named Anna Lucia, born in 1705.

Newdigate Poyntz, the second son of Thomas Poyntz and Sarah Lane, entered the English Jesuit College at Rome, into which he was admitted under the name of Augustin on 11th July, 1705, aged 25 (so born in 1680). He was ordained Priest 3rd April 1706, and left as an Associate by way of France on 30th April 1707. We find the following notes of him in the Douay Diary, Foley.

¹ Prob. 21st May 1706. (112 Eccles.) P.C.C.

² Chanc. Proc. Bridges. Vol. I., No. 208.

³ Newdigate Owsley was the eldest son of John Owsley, Clerk, by Dorothy Poyntz, aunt of the deceased Thomas.

⁴ Chanc. Bills. Hamilton. No. 272.

Pages 89-92.—Sequuntur Nomina quorundam ex alumniis, cum Diebus Natalibus singulorum.

Newdigate (hic Augustinus) Poyntz, natus 19-20 Martii Anno 1680 stylo novo.

86.—Die 12 Aprilis Augustinus Poyntz, Londinensis.

52.—Die 28 Martii 1698 Augustinus Newdigate Poyntz, Diocesis Londinensis.

Having left England, and moreover having become a Papist, he was disabled under the Recusancy Acts of being in England and of bringing any action at law or suit in equity, and the reader will have noticed that his name is not associated with those of his brothers in the Letters of Administration to his mother's estate.

Robert Poyntz, third son of Thomas Poyntz, of Lambeth, was born in 1682. He was a distiller in London, and married Sarah, daughter of Edward Taverner, of Hexton, which Sarah with him we have seen ante (p. 185) were joint executors to the will of Sarah, relict of his uncle, Newdigate Poyntz, of Benefield. She died in 1748, aged seventy-three years, and he in 1756 intestate, when administration of his estate, on the 3rd June in that year, was granted to Newdigate Poyntz, natural and lawful son of the deceased. Besides this son, Robert Poyntz left issue three daughters, Sarah, Mary, and Jane, whom it will not be necessary to mention further here.

Newdigate Poyntz, only son of Robert Poyntz, was born in 1715, and married in 1743 Elizabeth, daughter and eventually heir of Nathaniel Castleton, of Hampstead. He was Clerk of the House of Commons, and by indentures dated 22nd Nov., 1763, between John Fletcher, of Highgate, Co. Middlesex, gent., only son and heir at law of Benjamin Fletcher, late of Welwyn, Co. Herts, gent., by Jane his wife, both deceased, which said Jane was the only sister of John Rogers, late of Hexton, Co. Herts, deceased, who was the only child and heir of John Rogers, deceased, by Christian, his wife, also deceased, who was the only child and heir at law of John Cross, late of Hexton, Esq.,¹ also deceased, of the one part, and Newdigate Poyntz, of Hexton, Esq., of the other part, in consideration of the sum of £850 to the said John Fletcher duly paid, the said John

¹ Edward Taverner sold the Manor of Hexton before 1713 to John Cross, of Hockley-in-the-Hole, Clerkenwell, Brewer, whose son held it in 1728. John Cross, junr., had an only daughter Christiana, wife of John Rogers, whose two children, John and Jane, possessed the manor on the death of their grandfather John Cross. John Rogers died 1750, s.p., when the manor came to his sister Jane, wife of Benjamin Fletcher. John Fletcher, their son, to whom it descended, sold it in 1764 to Newdigate Poyntz, Esq., who died 1772, when it came to his son Newdigate, who shortly after sold it to Sir Benjamin Rawlin, of Putteridge. Cussan's Hist. of Herts.—Hexton

Fletcher granted to the said Newdigate Poyntz all the Manor and Lordship of Hexton, with all its members and appurtenances.¹

Newdigate Poyntz had issue by his wife Elizabeth six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom, the second son, Nathaniel, died in childhood. Stephen, the third son, entered the army and was appointed Brigadier and Lieutenant 1st Life Guards, 1777; Exempt and Captain, 1782; Supernumerary Lieut. Colonel, 1793; Brevet Colonel, 1796; and Major General, 1801. He was never employed on Foreign Service.² In 1796 he married Elizabeth, relict of John Whitfield of Watford, co. Herts, Esq., on which occasion he was described as Colonel Stephen Poyntz of the first Regiment of Life Guards. The settlement on their marriage is among the muniments of Ralph Branton Day, Esq., of Micklefield, Rickmansworth. She died at Hampstead in 1811, and was buried at Watford. He survived until 1837, and was interred with his wife. We have not been able to ascertain the maiden name of this Lady. In her will, dated 9th March, 1797, she desires to be buried in Watford Church as near her former husband John Whitfield as may be. She died possessed of considerable property in lands and money, and in her will names her beloved sister, Bridget London, wife of Thomas London of Hillhay, Essex, Surgeon. In a Codicil executed in 1802 when there were no children, she disposes of the Manor of Seratt, which she appears to have acquired since she made her will. She makes John Kinderley, of Symonds Inn, and George Hyde, of Old Burlington St., Apothecary, her Executors, who, it is presumed, renounced, for her husband, Major General Stephen Poyntz proved the will and codicil in September, 1811.³ There is a tablet in Watford Church erected by her to commemorate her first husband John Whitfield, who died 18th March, 1795, aged 46. There is also a tablet to Mrs. Elizabeth Poyntz, wife of Major General Poyntz, who died August 15th, 1811, aged 58 years.⁴

For the daughters we refer to the annexed tabular pedigree.

Newdigate, eldest son of Newdigate Poyntz and Elizabeth Castleton his wife, matriculated at Oxford as from Christ Church, 15th June, 1770, aged eighteen, as son of Newdigate Poyntz, Esq., of Hexton, Co. Herts. He entered holy orders and was instituted on 5th July, 1777, to the parish of Tormarton, with the Chapels of West Littleton and Acton Turville, Co. Gloucester, on the presentation of Nathaniel Castleton, Esq., vacant by the death of Edward Griffith, Clerk, last Rector. He was twice married. First, on 7th May, 1779,

¹ Rot. Claus., 22nd November, 1763.

² Gentleman's Mag. Vol. vii, p. 667.

³ P.C.C. (422 Crickett.)

⁴ Clutterbuck's Herts., Vol. i, p. 266.

to Jane Grey, daughter of Richard Williamson, of Eydon, Northants, Esq., by whom he had issue seven children, four sons and three daughters, for whom see tabular pedigree.

Newdigate Poyntz married, secondly, Mary, daughter of Philip Bliss, Clerk, Rector of Tormarton from 4th November, 1773 to 1775, when he died and was succeeded by Edward Griffith above-mentioned.¹

It appears from a letter addressed by the Rev. Newdigate Poyntz, of Tormarton, dated 17th June, 1811, that Lord Spencer had before that date placed Mr. Poyntz's son Newdigate in the Royal Academy at Portsmouth, from which institution in due course he entered the Royal Navy. We have the following record of his services from Byrne, from which it appears that he suffered much from ill-health, was frequently invalided, and finally obliged to retire on half-pay after having been only fifteen years afloat. On his retirement, in recognition of the services he had performed on the Canadian lakes, he was advanced to the rank of Commander. He entered the Royal Naval Academy 2nd February, 1798, and embarked in December, 1800, as A.B., on board "*La Déterminée*," 24, Captains John Clarke Searle, Philip Beaver, and Alexander Becher; under the first mentioned of whom he assisted 25th July, 1801, at the capture off Alexandria of a French corvette of 10 guns, with specie on board to the amount of £10,000 sterling. He held at the time the rating of Midshipman. In March, 1803, three months after he had left "*La Déterminée*," he joined the "*Sceptre*," 74, Captains Sir Arch. Dickson and Joseph Bingham, and sailed for the East Indies, where he continued until obliged by ill-health to invalid in June, 1806. Becoming attached in August, 1807, to the "*Prince of Wales*," 98, bearing the flag of Admiral Gambier, he took part in that ship, and as Acting-Lieutenant in the "*Thunder*" bomb, Captains George Cocks and James Caulfield, in the operations connected with the attack upon Copenhagen. He was confirmed Lieutenant 11th September, 1807; and subsequently appointed, 31st May, 1808, to the "*Hound*" bomb, Captain Nicholas Lockyer, under whom, and the Flag of the Rear-Admiral Rich. Goodwin Keats, he witnessed the embarkation from Nyebourg of the Spanish troops under the Marquis de la Romana. September 22nd, 1809 (after five months of half-pay occasioned by indisposition) to the "*Mosquito*" sloop, Captain Robert Pettet, employed off Heligoland and up the river Elbe. In July and October, 1810, February and September, 1811, and January, 1812, to the command in the Mediterranean of the "*Orion*" transport, "*Epervier*," "*Pylades*," and "*Epervier*." 5th August, 1813, (twelve months after the "*Epervier*" had been paid

¹ Episcopal Registers, Glouc.

off) to the "Aeolus," 32, Captain Stephen Popham, on the coast of North America; and 18th February, 1814, to the Naval establishment on the Lakes of Canada, where, from August to December following, we find him commanding the "Netley" schooner. He invalided home in January, 1815, and on 19th September following, as a reward for services he had performed on the Canadian lakes, was advanced to his present rank. He has since been on half-pay.

Commander Poyntz was twice married. His first wife is said to have been an Hungarian lady, the relict of a Greek, but we have no evidence in support of this marriage, except that on his second marriage, which took place at Newton Abbot, Devon, in 1837, he is described as a widower. His second wife was Alice, daughter of John Brinn. He settled at Tidenham, Co. Gloucester, sometime before 1839, in which year his daughter Lucy was baptised there.

Newdigate, eldest son of Commander Poyntz and Alice Brinn, entered Pembroke College, Oxford, 13th December, 1860, aged eighteen, B.A. 2nd Class Math. 1864, M.A. 1867. Entered Holy Orders and was instituted to the Vicarage of Little Drayton, in the Diocese of Lichfield, in 1874, which benefice he held until the present year (1885) when he was preferred to the Rectory of Stone in the same Diocese. He married at Weymouth in 1874 Margaret Julia, only daughter of Henry Sweeting, Clerk, of Stockleigh English, Devon, by whom he has issue, for which see tabular pedigree post, p. 200.

Nathaniel Castleton Stephen, youngest son of Commander Poyntz, born 1846, matriculated as from Pembroke College, Oxford, 19th October, 1865, B.A. and lecturer 1868. He also was admitted to Holy Orders and is now (1885) Stipendiary Curate at Kiludown, Staplehurst. He married Hellen Willis, daughter of James Munroe Minor, M.D., of New York City, U.S.A., in 1882, and has issue.

PEDIGREE OF POYNTZ OF BENEFIELD.

TABLE X.

Ann, da. of Miles Forest=Sarah, dau. of Francis=Newdigate Poyntz, youngest son of=Mary, dau. of Aden Parkyns of of Peterboro, Esq. 2 wife, Foxley of Harringworth, John Poyntz of Reigate, bap. at Dunny, co. Notts, 3 wife, mar. at mar. before 30 Jan. 1636-7, 1 wife, named in her father's will 1617, d. 1636, Reigate 16 Nov. 1608. Will dated St. Margaret's, Westm. 21 Dec. living in June 1637, but bur. ¹ 31 May 1636. 26 Mar. 1639, prob. 27 Feb. 1644-5, 1637, survived her husb. and died soon after s.p. (34 Rivers). Slain at Gainsborough in mar. 2ndly cir. 1649 Thomas the King's service 4 Aug. 1643. Inq. Tedcastle. Widow in 1657. Dead p.m. 21 Chas. I, Wards & Liveries. Dec. 1662.							
		See Table XI.					
Dorothy, bap. ¹ 3 Jan. 1631-2, mar. 1659 John Owsley, Clk., Rector of Gloosten, co. Lancaster, died 2 Aug. 1705.		Mary Poyntz, bap. ¹ 14 Jan. 1633-4, mar. Thomas Crosby, Clerk.	Sarah Poyntz, bap. ¹ 29 Jan. 1633-4, bur. ¹ 2 May 1635.	Elizabeth Poyntz, bap. ¹ 29 May 1636, bur. ¹ same day.	Charles, bap. ¹ 18 Nov. 1630, d. before 1645.		
Thomas Poyntz, bap. ¹ 12 Jan. 1628-9, of Benefield, son & heir, aged 14 years on his father's death, bur. ¹ 26 Mar. 1677.		Mary, da. of ... Herington, mar. before 1649, bur. ¹ 22 Mar. 1664-5.	John Poyntz, bap. ¹ 3 Jan. 1629-30, of Benefield, Capt. R.N., bur. ⁵ 12 Aug. 1712.	Alice, da. of ... Brown of Dartford, bur. ⁵ 23 July 1712.	Francis Poyntz, bap. ¹ 16 Jan. 1632-3, Citizen and Upholder, London, Upholsterer to the King. Bur. ⁷ 22 Sep. 1684. Will dat. 8 Sep. 1684, prob. 18 Feb. 1684-5 (26 Canne).	Catherine, da. of .. Bates, mar. St. Bartholomew the Less, London, 21 Sep. 1658, bur. ⁷ 3 Oct. 1680.	
		Alice, mar. Charles Manning of Dartford. He bur. ⁵ 16 Aug. 1719. She bur. ⁵ 1 Oct. 1719.					
Mary Poyntz, named in the will of Sarah, relict of her brother Newdigate, and then unmar.		Robert.	Francis, bap. ⁶ 19 Sep. 1661, named in father's will.	Catherine, bap. ⁶ 26 Ap. 1663.	Sarah, bap. ⁶ 1 May 1664.	Thomas, bap. ⁷ 22 Dec. 1672, bur. ⁷ 2 Jan. 1678-9.	Jane Poyntz, named in her father's will, probably born between 1672 and 1675.
		Catherine, bap. ⁷ 9 July 1671, named in father's will.	Thomas, youngest son, named in his father's will.	Anna Maria, bap. ⁷ 14 Sep. 1675.	Robert, bap. ⁷ 13 Ap. 1679.		
Newdigate Poyntz, born 1648, matric. from St. John's Coll. Camb. 20 May 1665, aged 16. Adm. Gray's Inn 11 May 1668, called to the Bar 3 Ap. 1678. Bur at Hexton 20 Dec. 1701, s.p. and intestate.		Sarah, relict of ... Taverner of Hexton, co. Herts, mar. lic. dated 3 Ap. 1678. Died 1706. Will dated 15 Nov. 1704, prob. 21 May 1706, (112 Eades).		Thomas Poyntz, bap. ¹ 3 Dec. 1649-50, of Lambeth, Surrey, Merchant. Died 1688 intestate. Admo. to Newdigate Owsley, Sarah his relict having renounced.		Sarah, da. of Thomas Lane of London, died 1710 intestate. Admo. granted to her sons Thomas and Robert 14 Jan. 1710-11.	

A

¹ At Benefield.² At Tormarton.³ At Llanharan.⁴ At Tidenham.⁵ At Dartford.⁶ At St. Michael's, Cornhill.⁷ At St. Andrew's, Holborn.

A

Thomas Poyntz, Apothecary, St. Martin's in the Fields, London.	Isabella, da. of Michael Babington of St. Margaret's, Westminster, mar. at St. Bartholomew the Less, London, 28 Sep. 1703.	Newdigate Poyntz, admitted to the Jesuit's Coll., Rome, 11 July 1705, aged 25, born 19 or 20 Mar., 1680, N.S.	Sarah, da. of Edward Taverner of Hexton, b. 8 April 1674, mar. at Hexton 6 Oct. 1706, d. 3 Ap. 1748, aged 73.	Robert Poyntz, born circ. 1682, of Hexton Heath, a Distiller of London, died 8 May 1756, aged 74, intestate. Admo. granted to Newdigate Poyntz his son.
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Anna Lucia, born 5, bap. St. Martin's in the Fields, 8 Ap. 1705.

Sarah Poyntz, born 8 Dec. 1707, mar. Robert Wright, Clerk, died 9 Mar. 1754.	Mary Poyntz, born 1710. Will dated 11 Dec. 1760, prob. 9 Mar. 1773 (75 Stevens), d. 13 Jan. 1773, aged 63, unmar. bur. at Hexton.	Jane.	Newdigate Poyntz, born & bap. St. Martin's in the Fields 17 Aug. 1715, Clerk of the Ho. of Commons, purchased the manor of Hexton 1763, died 7 Nov. 1772, aged 56. Will dated 22 June, prob. 26 Nov. 1772.	Elizabeth, da. and heir of Nathaniel Castleton, late of Hampstead, mar. at St. Martin's in the Fields 20 Sep. 1743, died 12 Oct. 1772, aged 60.
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Stephen Poyntz, bap. at Offley, Herts, 16 Oct. 1755, Brigad. and Lieut. 1st Life Guards 1777, Capt. 1782, Lieut.-Col. 1793, Col. 1796, Major-Gen. 1801, died 3 Ap. 1837, æt. 81, and was interred with his wife, s.p. M.I.	Elizabeth, relict of John Whitfield of Watford, Herts, Esq. d. 1796, æt. 46, M.I. She died at Hampstead 28 Aug. 1811, aged 58, bur. at Watford. Will dated 9 Mar. 1797, cod., 1802, prob Sep. 1811. (422 Crickett.)	Sarah Poyntz, mar. John Miller of Dunstable 1773. She died at Bedford 21 July 1813, aged 66. He died 22 Oct. 1815. Both bur. St. Cuthbert's, Bedford.	Mary Poyntz, mar. Charles Smith, Clk., Vicar of St. Paul's, Walden, Herts. She died 9 July 1813, aged 63. He 20 Dec. 1813, aged 62. Both bur. there.
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Nathaniel, born 1754, d. 20 Aug. 1764, aged 10.	Amy Poyntz, mar. Dec. 1773 John Sandford, Clk., Rector of George Ham, co. Devon. She died Aug. 1814 at Northampton, aged 61. He died 5 Dec. 1805, bur. at Cottesbrook.	Newdigate Poyntz, matric. Ch. Ch. Oxon. 15 June 1770, aged 18. Inst. to Rectory of Tormarton, co. Glouc. 5 July 1777, died 15 Dec. 1825.	1. Jane Grey, da. of Richard Williamson of Eydon, Northants, Esq. mar. 7 May 1779. She was bap. ¹ 18 Jan. 1738. =2. Mary, dau. of Philip Bliss, Clerk, Rector of Tormarton 1733-1775, when he died. Of this marriage there was no issue.
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Elizabeth Poyntz, born 16, bap. 21 Mar. 1780. She was the eldest child, died 1842, unmar.	Caroline Poyntz, born 27 Ap. 1784, mar. William Way Burne, Clk., Rector of Grittleton, Wilts, d. 3 May 1877.	Lucy Poyntz, born 11 and bap. 16 May 1781, d. young.	Lucy, born 6 Feb. 1789, died 1856, unmar.	Stephen Poyntz, sometime Lieut. in H.E.I.C.S., afterwards of Olveston, co. Glouc., born 1787, died at Bath 10 Dec. 1872, aged 85, unmar.
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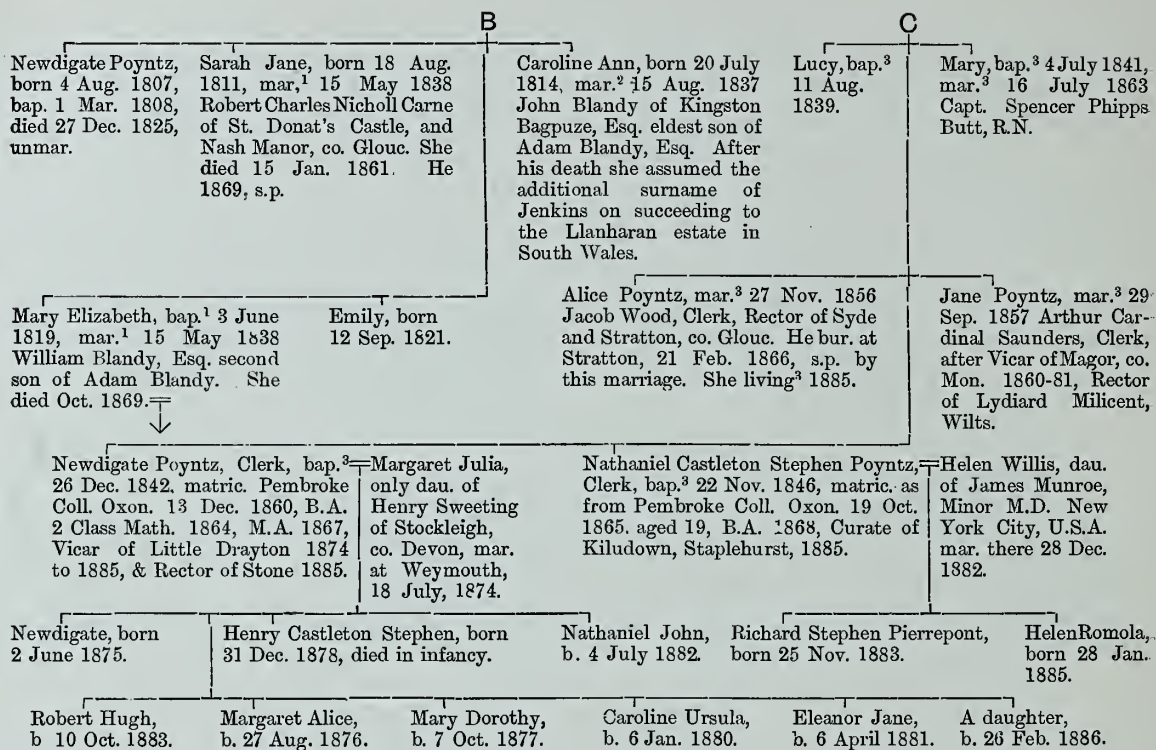
William Poyntz, born 17 May 1790, died at sea in consequence of a fall from a mast 6 Sep. 1804, æt. 14.	Nathaniel Poyntz, Clerk, born 12, bap. 23 Aug. 1782, matric. St. Mary's Hall, Oxon. 23 Oct. 1801, aged 19, Rector of Cranwich and Vicar of Methwold, Norfolk, 1813. He lived at Alverscot, Oxford, and d. Mar. 1873, aged 90.	Ann, youngest dau. of Richard Jenkins of Pantynawel, co. Glam. mar. at Llanharan, in same co. 18 Sep. 1806.	Newdigate Poyntz, born 14 April 1785, entered Royal Naval Academy 2 Feb. 1798, Lieut. 1807, Commander 1815. He is said to have mar. as his first wife a Hungarian lady. He resided many years at Tidenham, co. Glouc. Died 15 and bur. ² 22 Nov. 1853, aged 68.	Alice, dau. of John Brinn. mar. at Newton Abbot, Devon, in 1837. Died at Tidenham and bur. there 28 April 1875, aged 70.
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B

C

¹ At Tormarton.

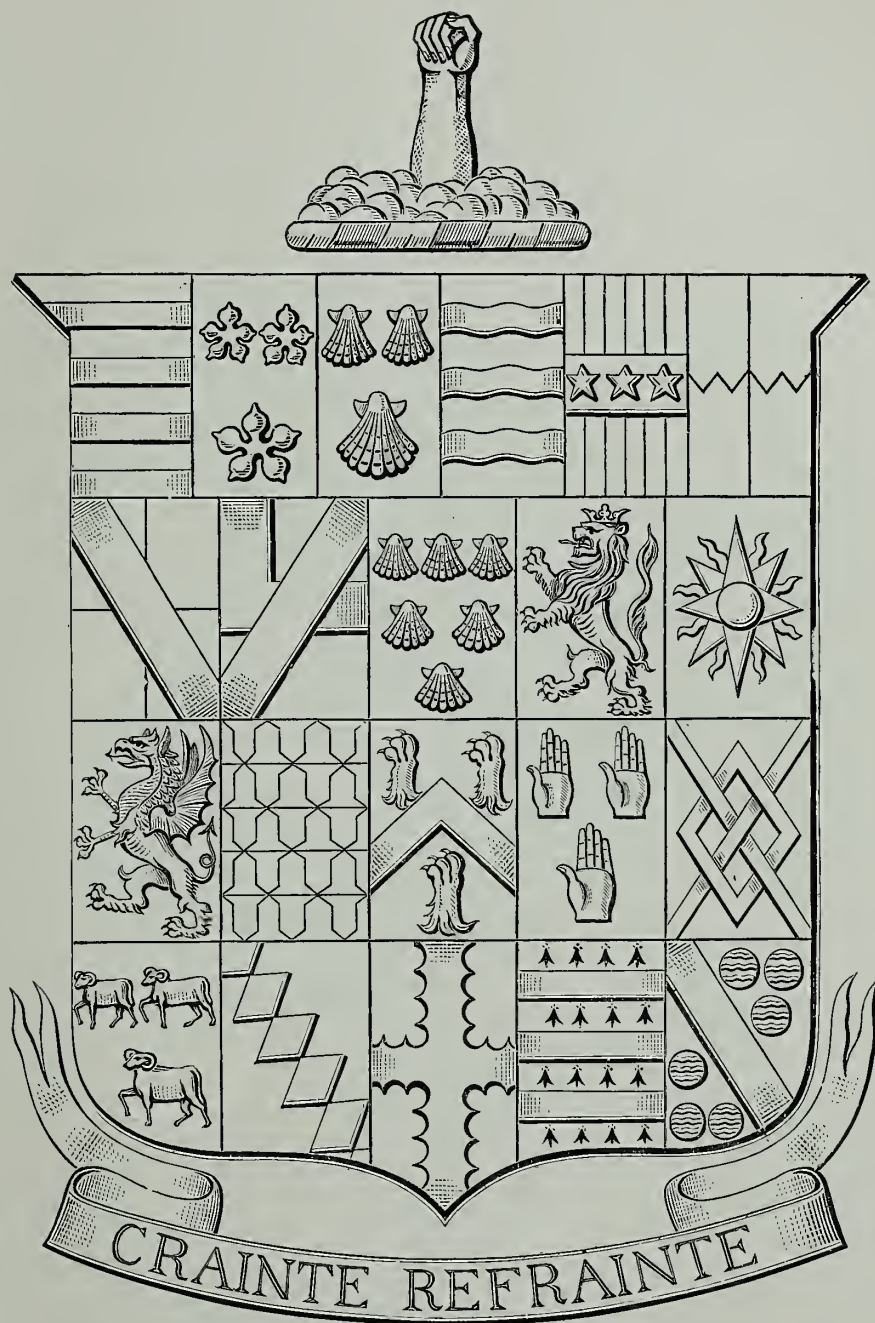
² At Tidenham.

¹ At Tormarton.² At Llanharan.³ At Tidenham.

BLAZON OF THE ARMS OF POYNTZ OF BENEFIELD.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Barry of eight, Or and Gu. POYNTZ.
2. Az. three cinquefoils Or, 2, 1. BARDOLPH.
3. Az. three escallops Or, 2, 1. MALET.
4. Or three bars wavy Sa. BASSET.
5. Paly of six upon a fess Gu. three mullets Or. CLANVOWE.
6. Quarterly per fess indented Ar. and Az. ACTON.
7. Quarterly Gu. and Or a bend Az. FITZ NICHOL.
8. Ar. a fess and canton Gu. a bend sinister Sa. WYDVILLE.
9. Gu. six escallops Ar. 3, 2, 1. SCALES.
10. Ar. a lion ramp. Gu. crowned Or. ST. PAUL.
11. Gu. a star of eight points Ar. DE BEAULX.
12. Gu. a griffin segreant Or. Not identified.
13. VAIRE. Az. and Ar. BEAUCHAMP. | 14. Gu. a chev. betw. three lions' gambes erased Ar. armed Or. NEWDIGATE.
15. Az. three sinister hands coupé Ar. MALMAYNES.
16. Az. a fret Ar. ECHINGHAM.
17. Ar. three rams passant Sa. SYDENHAM.
18. Ar. a bend fusilé Or. KITSFORD.
19. Ar. a cross engrailed Gn. Not identified.
20. Erm. three bars Gu. Not identified.
21. Sa. a bend Or betw. six fountains Az. STURTON.

CREST.—Issuant from clouds a dexter cubit arm ppr. fist clenched.
MOTTO.—Crainte Refrainte. |
|--|--|



Arms of Poyntz of Benefield.

CHAPTER VIII.

POYNTZ OF MIDGHAM.

We must now revert to the issue of Newdigate Poyntz, of Benefield, by his third wife, Mary Parkyns, by whom he had issue five children (as stated ante p. 189) who survived him; but we know the names of three of them only. Newdigate Poyntz, the eldest of his sons by this marriage, was born in 1638, and on the death of his mother Mary Poyntz, who was executrix to her husband's will, he obtained letters of administration to his father's effects, on the 6th December, 1662. He settled at Plymouth, of which town he was Borough Constable, and distinguished himself by doing all he could under the Recusants' Acts against Quakers, Baptists, and Presbyterians for holding conventicles and not attending the services of the Church. His connection with Plymouth was very short, and all that else can be said of him is that he wrote an enviably good hand. This we can believe from the very ornate character of his signature which lies before us. In his petition in Chancery, dated the 8th February, 1676, he is described as merchant of that town, and it is stated that Mary, his wife, was relict and executrix of the last will and testament of John Stanning, late of Plymouth, merchant. This petition, which relates to an obligatory bond which he had given to one Thomas, affords no further information concerning Newdigate Poyntz.¹ He married the lady referred to at Charles' Church, Plymouth, on 11th April, 1674, in the record of which he is described as of London and Plymouth. By her he had an only daughter named Mary, for whom her uncle William Poyntz, she being under the age of twenty-one years, answered, on 28th July, 1693, as her next friend and guardian in a suit in which John Poyntz, her cousin, was plaintiff, concerning the lands of Dosthorpe, to which she, as heir-at-law of her father, was entitled, subject to the charge of £1,000 thereon created by her grandfather in favour of his children by his first marriage. She says that neither she nor her father ever

¹ Chanc. Proceedings, Reynardson, 1662-1714, No. 40, Poyntz v. Powell.

enjoyed this estate, and that she was willing that the £1,000 should be paid out of it, and prayed to be discharged from the suit.¹

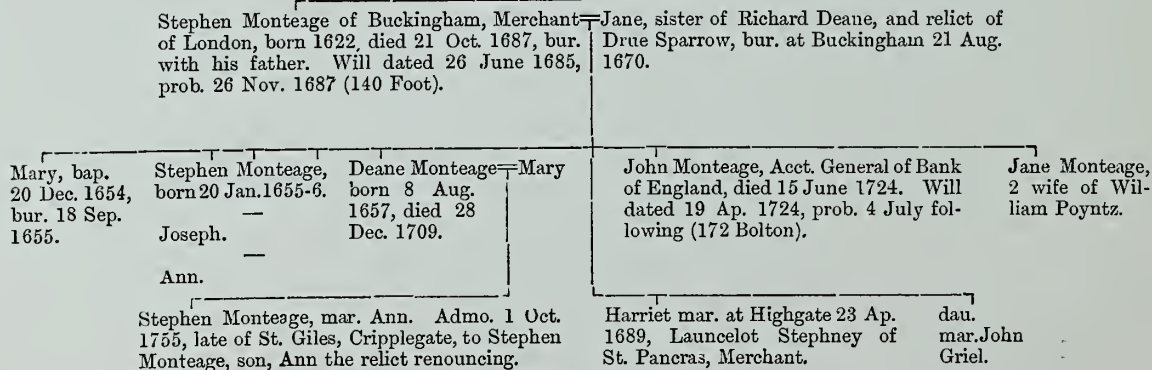
William Poyntz, another son of Newdigate Poyntz, by his third marriage, like his half-brother Francis, who appointed him one of the executors to his will in 1684, was an Upholsterer in London, living at the sign of "the Goat" in Cornhill. He married, as his first wife, Mary, daughter of . . . Avery, of London, by whom he had three children. She was buried at Battersea on the 3rd January, 1679-80, and her youngest child, John Poyntz, was buried at St. Michael's, Cornhill, only sixteen days afterwards. He married secondly on 4th April, 1681, Jane, daughter of Stephen Monteage² by his wife Jane, daughter of Edward Deane of Pinnock, co. Glouc., and sister of Richard Deane, Admiral and "a general at sea" during the Commonwealth, and relict of Drue Sparrow, the General's Secretary, who was killed in action 18th February, 1652. By this marriage William Poyntz had issue nine children; and it was the means of introducing the christian names of Stephen and Deane into the Poyntz family.

William Poyntz, the eldest son of this marriage, born in 1682, was in March, 1715-6, appointed Consul-General at Lisbon. He married first Mary, daughter of John Aston, of London, merchant, by whom he had two children, John and Mary, both born at Lisbon and died there. He had also a daughter,

¹ Chanc. Proc., Bridges, No. 107, Poyntz v. Poyntz.

² Stephen Monteage made his will on the 26th June, 1685, and describes himself as of All Hallows-on-the-Walls, merchant, and directs that his body shall be buried in the church-yard there. He gives to his son Deane Monteage £10 for the maintenance of the tomb of his (testator's) mother and grandmother at Buckingham. Names his son-in-law, William Poyntz, and daughter Jane, Stephen's wife, and their son Stephen Poyntz, and his two other grandchildren, sons of William Poyntz, Stephen and Deane Poyntz. Prob. to Deane Monteage, 26th November, 1687. (140 Foot.) See Appendix.

Stephen Monteage, Gent., bur. in St.
Bartholomew Churchyard, London,
8 Jan. 1657-8. Will proved 10 Jan.



Jane, born in 1713 at her grandfather's Mr. John Aston's house in St. Mary, Abchurch, London, who, in January, 1729-30, married Samuel Malcher, of St. Andrew's, Undershaft, and afterwards of Dartford, Kent, where in 1740 he was the owner of the Phoenix Mills, which he held nearly twenty years, and resided in a handsome house in what is now Dockery's garden. He died about 1786 s.p., and devised his property to Martyn Fonnereau, Esq.

William Poyntz married secondly Mary Moncrieff, relict of Sir Thomas Frederick, knt., son of Sir John Frederick, Alderman and Lord Mayor of London in 1662, and brother of Sir John Frederick, created a baronet in 1723. Sir Thomas was a director of the South Sea Company and knighted 8th September, 1721. He was also Governor of Fort St. David in the East Indies. He married his wife at Fort St. George, Calcutta, 11th January, 1704-5, and died 8th February, 1731. She remarried William Poyntz, then described as of St. Stephen's, Coleman-street, in 1734-5. By her he had no issue. By his will, dated 7th April, 1747, in which he describes himself as of St. James', Westminster, Esq., he bequeaths a moiety of his estate to his wife Dame Mary Frederick, requesting her to bequeath the same to his daughter, Mrs. Jane Malcher, of Dartford, to whom he gives the other moiety. Names his son-in-law, Samuel Malcher, and their son Samuel. Gives a quarter of the residue to his brother Stephen Poyntz, Esq., of Midgham Park, Berks, and gives legacies to his sister Mrs. Hannah Poyntz, his niece Mary Poyntz, and his niece Hannah Poyntz, daughters of his brother Joseph Poyntz, deceased.¹

Deane Poyntz, the third son of William Poyntz, by his second marriage, was born in 1687. He was a merchant in Jamaica and married there in 1715 Florence, daughter of Robert Fulton, of that island, by whom he had five children.

Jane Poyntz, born in June, 1718, the eldest surviving child of William Poyntz by his third marriage, her brother William having died in infancy, was in October, 1734, married at the Mercer's Chapel in London, being then described as of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, she being at the time only a little over sixteen years of age. Her father having died in Jamaica in 1725 her mother remarried one . . . Blechynden, and probably had taken up her residence in London.

Deane Poyntz, son of Deane Poyntz, through his uncle's influence, in 1735, was made equerry to His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, and was with him in his campaign in Scotland in 1745, where he was

¹ Prob., 19th October, 1748. (307 Strachan.)

severely wounded. In the following year he attended the Duke in his unfortunate expedition to the Netherlands. He made his will on the 21st February in this year (1746), probably before his embarkation. In it he names his honoured mother, Mrs. Florence Blechynden, and gives "to Mary Cressey for her great care and tenderness to me while I lay wounded and sick in Scotland, £200." Names also his sister Mary Poyntz, spinster, and his cousin Mary Poyntz, spinster, daughter of his uncle, Joseph Poyntz, deceased, also his uncle, William Poyntz, and his uncle, the Right Hon^{ble}. Stephen Poyntz, whom he makes his executors, and gives them £2,000 to place out at interest for the uses following, viz., to the use of his brother, Robert Poyntz, of Padwick, Berks, he to receive the interest during his life, and after his decease the capital to be divided among his children on their attaining twenty-one years of age. In default of such issue then to his cousins, William Poyntz and Charles Poyntz, sons of his uncle, Stephen Poyntz, or the survivor of them; one fourth and one fourth of the overplus to his sister, Mary Poyntz.¹

Deane Poyntz died unmarried 1st June, 1749, but had an illegitimate son, William Deane Poyntz, whom he does not name in his will. He matriculated as of University College, Oxford, on the 12th June, 1767, as the son of Deane Poyntz, Esq., of St. James', London, aged eighteen, and probably was not born on his father's death. He left the University without taking a degree, and eventually became Deputy Paymaster-General to the Forces at New York. He was acknowledged by the Poyntz family, and Mary Poyntz, relict of his uncle Robert Poyntz, of Padworth, left him in 1777 her whole estate. He died unmarried in 1791, and in his will, dated 30th October, 1781, and codicil 13th October, 1788, names his schoolfellow and relative George Poyntz Ricketts—directs that his body shall be buried with his aunt and benefactress, Mrs. Robert Poyntz, in South Audley Street, and bequeaths the residue of his property to Louisa and the other children of William Poyntz, of Midgham.²

Robert Poyntz, second son of Deane Poyntz the elder, was a most worthless fellow, and a cause of grief and distress to all his relatives. He is described as of Padworth, Berks, but we do not know what was the nature of his tenancy there. He married Mary Crawford, relict of . . . Hyde, who survived him, and he appears to have treated her with great cruelty. His drunken and licentious character is described in the draft of a letter among the Spencer papers, written apparently by his uncle, Stephen Poyntz, but not signed, dated St. James', November 10th, 1751.

¹ Prob., 16th February, 1749-50. (55, Greenley.)

² Prob., 29th January, 1791. (Bishop.)

The writer says—"The vile and ungrateful behaviour of my nephew Robert has been one of the most cutting and undeserved afflictions of my life. I will not mention the tender care and enormous expense with which I gave him the best education in my power; my placing him in the Prince of Orange's family where he might now have enjoyed some high station in the Army, if he had not been early discarded for his misbehaviour; my obtaining him after this a commission in the Marines, where, out of the General's friendship to me, he had a quick rise, but shall pass over to transactions of a fresher date. This last summer, ever since his presence has become an insupportable affliction to my age and infirmities, he knows that I did at the pressing instance of that good woman his wife, apply to the Duke to obtain an exchange into some marching Regiment which might release from the distress of his own Officers having refused to roll with him; it being found impracticable to obtain such an exchange, he knows that I used my utmost endeavours to procure for him an independent company for the East Indies, which he first rejected, then supplicated for, till the notoriety of his misbehaviour induced Admiral Boscawen (though solicited by his nearest relatives) to put an absolute negative upon him." His uncle goes on to relate further acts of his nephew's gross misconduct, and adds "these are trifles in comparison of the barbaritys and wild excesses committed at Padworth. All Berkshire rings of them, and he is become a public nuisance to the neighbourhood." Indeed his excesses at Padworth had been such that Mr. Poyntz states—"Mrs. Poyntz his wife without any previous knowledge of mine, had at last been obliged to seek protection at my lodgings at St. James', where she now is, and whence she says she cannot depart, without fear of her life, so that it cannot in humanity or conscience be expected that I should lend a hand towards forcing her once more into his power without any previous security obtained for her. I cannot finish without observing how meanly and ungenerously, as well as falsely, he acts in trying to charge his late behaviour on some hasty word from his wife, provoked by a thousand curses and ill names, when he knows how publicly he has declared his settled aversion to her." The letter is addressed "to one who is so soon to call him brother." His brother, Deane Poyntz, writing in April, 1747, from Tillbury, in Holland, where he was with the Duke of Cumberland, expresses his "regret at his brother Robert having to sell out at the age of twenty-six by his way of life."

Robert Poyntz, died 29th June, 1749, s.p., and was buried at St. Anne's, Soho. On the 11th January following administration of all his goods and chattels, &c., in which he is described as Robert Poyntz, Esq., late Captain in

¹ Spencer Papers.

the Regiment of Marines, late under the command of Lord Viscount Torrington, but in the parish of St. Anne's, Middlesex, *Bachelor*, was granted to Daniel Firth, a creditor, he having been first sworn duly to administer. These letters of administration were afterwards revoked and declared null and void as surreptitiously and under false suggestions obtained, as by Act of Court more fully appears.

A will of the deceased was afterwards propounded dated 1st March, 1744-5, apparently before his unfortunate quarrels with his wife and other misconduct. He describes himself as Robert Poyntz, of Padworth, Berks, Captain in the Hon^{ble}. Colonel Byng's Regiment of Marines. He gives to his Aunts Martha and Hannah Poyntz, £100 each. To his uncles, the Right Hon^{ble}. Stephen Poyntz and William Poyntz of Saville Street, Westminster, £50 for mourning rings, to his sister, Mary Poyntz, £200. "Residue of my real and personal estate, lands, goods, plate, &c.," to my wife, Mary Poyntz, she paying my just debts and legacies. In case of her decease I bequeath my said estate, and whatsoever may come to me by my said wife, pursuant to our marriage articles of December , 1741, to my brother Deane Poyntz, Esq., provided he pay an additional sum of £500 to my dear sister," in that case he, Deane Poyntz, was to enjoy all the estate whatsoever for the term of his life, remainder to his sister, Mary Poyntz, for her life, remainder to "William Poyntz, Esq., Junior, eldest son of my uncle the Right Hon^{ble}. Stephen Poyntz, in consideration of the many obligations I am under, and have ever been, to my said uncle" to have and to hold to him the said William and his heirs for ever. And he appoints his wife Mary Poyntz, his uncles Stephen and William Poyntz, his brother Deane Poyntz, and his brother-in-law the Hon^{ble}. Edmund Hyde, Esq., executors.¹

Mary Poyntz survived her husband many years, and made her will as of Chapel Street, Mayfair, London, 27th November, 1777, and bequeathed the whole of her estate, as before mentioned, to William Deane Poyntz, and appoints him executor;² who proved her will 16th October, 1780.

Joseph Poyntz, sixth child of William Poyntz, Upholder, and Jane Monteage, his wife, was born in 1691. He was a merchant in Jamaica, and married at Lisbon in December, 1715, Eleanor, daughter of James Pitt, of Barking, Essex. She died on her passage to England on 5th July, 1727, Robert Poyntz being with her, leaving two daughters. Her husband died the following year at Jamaica, and was there buried, and where a monumental slab to his memory

¹ Will proved 12th June, 1752, by Mary Poyntz, relict and one of the executors, power reserved to Edmund Hyde. (167, Battesworth.)

² P.C.C. (485 Collins.)

still exists, bearing the following inscription, surmounted by a shield of arms—Barry of eight, differenced with a crescent. Crest: Over an Esquire's helmet, a dexter hand closed.

. . . lyes the body of | Joseph Poyntz | of Kingston in y^e Island | of Jamaica | merchant | who departed this life on | . . 24 Day of September 1728 | aged 37 years | Teach us &c. Ps. xc. 12.¹

His death is thus announced in the Annual Register—"1728: Died in Jamaica Joseph Poyntz, Esq., brother of his Excellency Stephen Poyntz, Esq."

Of the two daughters and coheirs of Joseph Poyntz the elder, Mary Poyntz never married. She lived at Bath in her latter years, where she died 2nd August, 1792. She made her will on 28th May, 1789, and added a codicil 29th November, 1791. She mentions a watch that was Mrs. Malcher's, makes bequests to Miss Poyntz and Miss Isabella Poyntz, daughters of William Stephen Poyntz, of Cowdray, of whom we shall write more hereafter. Mentions a trinket given to testator by the Duchess of Devonshire, gives money to "my heir and nephew George Poyntz Ricketts, and makes him executor, who proved her will on 16th August, 1792."²

Hannah, the second daughter and coheir married at the Temple Church, London, in 1748, Jacob Ricketts, of Midgham, Jamaica. They had an only son, George Poyntz Ricketts, above-mentioned, who was Governor of Jamaica in 1798, ante. This lady was the ancestress of the present Viscount St. Vincents, and of that distinguished soldier Lieut.-General Sir Frederick Roberts, K.C.B. (See Pedigree post.)

¹ Lawrence-Archer's Mon. Insc in the British West Indies, p. 128

² P.C.C. (443, Fountain.)

CHAPTER IX.

POYNTZ OF MIDGHAM AND COWDRAY.

This branch of the family, which shone with great lustre until its sudden and unhappy eclipse in 1815, was founded by Stephen, the second son of William Poyntz, the Upholder, of Cornhill, by Jane Monteage, his third wife. Some account of him is given by Anthony Allen, of King's College, Cambridge, and a Master in Chancery, who says he "was born in London, his father being an Upholder in Cannon Street, in low circumstances, but a very honest man."¹ Nevertheless, he was educated at Eton College, where he distinguished himself for his attainments as well as for his strength and skill in athletic exercises. He was Captain at the Eton Montem at Salt Hill. Berkeley Seymour was his Lieutenant, Theophilus Thompson, Ensign, and Anthony Allen, Marshall. The following verses were thrown out by him extempore on this occasion.

Allen paudit iter parvum Poyntz instruit agmen
Cogit idem Seymour, Thomsonque insignia rubrat.

He was admitted a scholar of King's College, Cambridge, 17th February, 1702, being then seventeen years of age, on the resignation of Mr. Anthony Reid of the year 1686. Became B.A. in 1706, and Fellow and M.A. in 1711. He was appointed tutor to the children of the Lord Viscount Townshend, Commissioner to General Stanhope, Secretary of State 1716, and through his influence his brother William Poyntz was appointed Consul-General in Portugal. In July of this year Stephen Poyntz was granted an annuity of £400, payable quarterly, during the King's pleasure.² In 1722 this would seem to have been issued in connection with a journey he made to Sweden in this year, for at Spencer House there is a packet of thirty-one letters from him commencing with one dated from Stockholm, 15th March, 1716-7. From Paris, &c., on Public and Private

¹ Notes from Spencer Papers.

² Signet Book.

Affairs. There is one from Paris, dated in 1730, relative to Lord Townshend's proposed retirement from office, and the consequent injury to the Whig cause. He was greatly dejected at the prospect. Though forty-five years of age he was still a bachelor. With regard to Lord Townshend he writes—"I can foresee no more comfort in retirement than in business, and if my strength and health will hold out to carry me thither, I believe I shall determine to retire to one of our plantations in the West Indies rather than to live in England under such an aspect of affairs." In another letter he recommends for a clerkship a "son of my cousin Miles, who has been some time a clerk in my brother's office." He was appointed joint Treasurer of the Excise, in 1722 and Commissioner of the Excise in December the following year. On 20th July, 1724, he was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Sweden, and was granted £500 for his equipage, and £5 a day as Envoy, and £3 a day as Plenipotentiary, as his ordinary entertainment, from the day of his departure until his return into His Majesty's presence. On the 29th January, 1727-8, he was appointed one of the Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Congress at Cambray, his colleague being his fellow collegiate Horatio Walpole. On this occasion, in May, he was granted £1000 for his equipage, and £10 a day as Ambassador, and £3 a day as Plenipotentiary from the 12th of that month. In March, 1729-30, he received a discharge to him and his heirs from the quantity of 1067 ozs. of gilt plate, and 5897 ozs. of white plate, delivered to him out of the Jewell Office for the purpose of this Embassy. That he stood equally high in the favour and confidence of the new King George II is shewn by the fact that on 30th October, 1730, he was appointed Governor to William Duke of Cumberland, the King's second son then 9 years of age.¹ In February 1734-5, Stephen Poyntz was sworn of the Privy Council.

On February, 1733-4, Stephen Poyntz married Anna Maria eldest daughter and coheir, by his second wife, of Brigadier General Lewis Mordaunt, (brother of Charles Mordaunt, created Earl of Monmouth, 9th April, 1689, who, on the death of his uncle the Earl of Peterborough, succeeded to that title). This Lady was Maid of Honour to Queen Caroline. She was the "Fair Circassian" which a young Gentleman at Oxford wrote on her and died for love of her.²

¹ The Pavillion near Midgham House was built for the young Prince to study in. It was pulled down and the materials sold for £300, by Mr William Stephen Poyntz, the beginning of the present Century.

² Walpole's Letters to Sir Horace Mann

Stephen Poyntz by his wife Anna Maria left a family of four children, two sons, William and Charles, and two daughters Louisa and Georgina-Margeret, of whom we shall treat in due course. They had another son named Stephen, born in November 1740, who died young. Stephen Pointz, died at Midgham 17th December, 1750. He made his will on the 16th December, 1738, in which he devised to his wife and to the Rev^d the Hon^{ble} Spencer Cowper and Lady Sarah Cowper, brother and sister of Earl Cowper, "all my manors &c., in Berks, which I lately purchased of Michael Hillersdon, Esq.¹ and all my real estates &c, in trust for my wife and her heirs:" gives to her all his personal estate and makes her executrix; and she proved his will on 4th January, 1750-1.²

Mr. Poyntz must have been a man of considerable ability though Horace Walpole, two days after his death, writes of him very slightly. In announcing Mr. Poyntz's death, Walpole states that he was ruined in his circumstances by a *devout brother* whom he trusted, and by a simple wife who had a devotion of marrying dozens of her poor Cousins at his expense . . . Mr. Poyntz was called a very great man but few knew anything of his talents for he was timorous to childishness. The Duke had done greatly for his Family, and secured his places for his children, sends his two sons abroad allowing them £800 a year.³ We should have been inclined to ascribe much of this to Walpoles' illnatured temperament, but that he was in some respects a weak man is confirmed by various circumstances. On his Balance Sheet in his own handwriting on 31st Oct., 1748, he comments on the "unhappy state of my affairs. Is this, "he says," the legacy I am to leave to the best of wives and most deserving of women! Oh God support her and be Thou a Father to the dear children Thou has blessed her with."

Mrs. Poyntz, as we have stated above, was Maid of Honour to Queen Caroline and consequently much about the Court; and even after her marriage her husband's office as Governor of the Duke of Cumberland brought her often within the Royal Circle. She was a great letter writer, and there are many of her letters preserved in the Muniment room at Spencer House. They contain much Court gossip and other news of the day. Extracts from a few of them may not be unwelcome. The first from which we shall quote was written by her to Lady Sarah Cowper in 1738, just before her husbands' death,

¹ Original purchase of Midgham cleared of incumbrances £21,530 in Stephen Poyntz's own handwriting.

² P.C.C. (18 Busby.)

³ Walpole's letters to Sir Horace Mann, 1st Series, Vol. II. p. 363.

and relates to the birth of King George III. She writes, "My dear you never knew such dull going on as we have here, even the birth of this poor little black prince (it was born black) made no rout here. The true history of him is that the Prince and Princess were at Lady Arch.² The nurse judged that the Princess would soon be brought to bed, and urged them immediately to hurry into a barge, desiring to come to town so, but they were afraid the child would be born upon the water, so got into a Coach, when they came to town the Princess was easy, so they wisely made her walk a great deal. They sent to the Lord Chancellor, the Archbishop, and several of the Council, but five minutes after the message sent to say that the child was born. No mortal was by but the Bishop of Oxford, whom Mrs. Cannon pulled into the room soon after the child was born. He christened it George immediately, for it was so black and stained, they all thought it dying, but now I think it is likely to live; they say the Duke of Queensborough came first to say she was in labour, and in five minutes after Lord Carnarvon to say she was delivered of a son, that he heard would be dead before he got back."

The Prince of Wales was at this time labouring under the King's heavy displeasure on account of a quarrel relative to his settlement. The King had even ordered the Lord Chamberlain to signify in the Gazette that those who resorted to the Prince should not be received at Court. Nevertheless there were great public rejoicings on the birth of the young Prince.

In August 1760, she writes: "The Duke (of Cumberland), you have I suppose by this time heard, has had a stroke of the palsy, it did not touch his memory or senses, but drew his mouth, he is better, was well enough yesterday to lead Princess Emely to her couch, but after this attack his life is still more precarious than ever, and certainly not to be depended upon."

On the 6th of November, she relates a somewhat amusing fracas between the Earl of Albermarle¹ and Mr. Townsend.² She writes: Lord Albermarle, with Colonel Stuart for his second, marched into Hyde Park to meet Lady Ferrers. Mr. Townsend had sent him a challenge, Lord Buckingham was to have been his second, who did not come at the time Mr. Townsend had appointed, so Lord Albermarle cooled his heels for about an hour. When the four did meet, and were just going to begin, the Coll. upon guard popped between them and put them both in arrest. Lord Cadogan and the Duke of

¹ George Keppel, Earl of Albermarle, served in the army under the Duke of Cumberland, to whom he was Lord of the Bedchamber. He became Lieut.-General in 1759, and subsequently held several high appointments and was created K.G. 26 Decr., 1765.

² This was probably William Townsend.

Newcastle went to them and the affair, by Mr. Townsend owning himself in the wrong, was made up."

King George II. died suddenly on 25th October 1760 from the rupture of the left ventricle of the heart. There was for some time a difficulty about his Will, and it was probably during this period of uncertainty that the following letter was written by Mrs. Poyntz on the 11th of the following month.

I have been at Kensington since I saw you. Princess Emely was told I was in Russell's room and came to me.¹ I very much admire her fortitude at the great change she has met with: Amongst other right things she assured me, she said she had never saved one shilling, that she thought herself accountable in the next world for the use she made of money here, and that she now only regretted its not being in her power to do the little good she used. A moving scene happened whilst I was with her, one of the late Lord Pembroke's brothers, Mr. Herbert came to resign the place he had in her family, she sent for him in and said 'Mrs. Poyntz this worthy man is come to save me the mortification of telling him I can no longer afford to keep him,' Herbert burst out in a flood of tears and told her he should always think himself her servant, but would never more receive a shilling from a great Princess who had so little to give; this set her and me a roaring. I tried all I could to make her dissuade the Duke from going to the funeral; but

¹ The Princess Amelia Sophia Eleanora, second daughter of George II., was born in 1711. There was a great desire on the part of the children of George I. that an alliance should be formed between the Royal Houses of England and Prussia, and the Princess Amelia, from her earliest infancy, was destined to become the wife of, if not actually betrothed to, her cousin Frederick, eldest son of Fred. William I., King of Prussia by his wife the Princess Sophia Dorothea of Hanover, who was just one year her junior. The children became devotedly attached to each other, but the King of Prussia had other designs for the marriage of his son, and in 1733 compelled him to espouse the daughter of the Duke of Brunswick Beven. This blighted affection embittered the whole life of the Princess Amelia. The feminine virtues which adorned her early life to a great extent disappeared. She became harsh, imperious and tyrannical. She began to meddle in politics. Walpole in his memoirs says of her: "She was meanly inquisitive in what did not relate to her, and foolishly communicative in what was below her to know; false, without trying to please; mischievous, with mere design; impertinent, even where she had no resentment; and insolent, though she had lost her beauty and acquired no power;" but he adds afterwards that "She was an excellent mistress to her servants, steady to her favorites, and nobly, generous, and charitable." The latter traits in her character are well borne out by Mrs. Poyntz's letter. When the affairs of her father were settled, she had no reason to complain of insufficient means. She had an annuity of £12,000 a year and in 1761 Gunnersbury House was purchased for her, and she had also the Rangership of Richmond Park. She died unmarried on 1st Oct., 1786, at the age of 75 and was buried in Henry VII's. Chapel at Westminster.

found it was expected of him to go. Princess Emely said for his sake alone she wished to live and told me most charming things of him, which proves to me that he has still the same heart your father left him with, though bad example, and spending his time with people of no religion, consequently of no virtue, have done him great harm.

On 1st September, 1763 Horace Walpole writes "Mrs. Poyntz" (Stephen Poyntz's widow) "*is au comble de la gloire* at Versailles. She has cured Madame Victoire of the stone by Mrs. Stephens' medicine. When Mrs. Poyntz took leave of them for Spa, they shut the door, and the whole Royal Family kissed her, for the king is so fond of his children that, they say, it was visible every day in his countenance whether his daughter was better or worse."¹

Mrs. Poyntz died at Midgham, 14th November, 1771 after a long illness. In her Will, dated 20th September previously, she bequeaths a picture of her husband by Vanlore to the Countess Spencer and directs that miniatures should be painted from it and from others, and then to Lord Althorpe. Gives 50 guineas to William Deane Poyntz "as a mark of my sincere regard," gives legacies to the children of William Poyntz, names her niece Anna Maria Vigourdaux and cousin Mary Collier, and appoints her sons William Poyntz and Dr. Charles Poyntz executors, who proved her Will 6th December following.²

Charles Poyntz, second son of Stephen Poyntz, born in 1735, was baptized in July of the same year, the Princess Amelia and Lord Lynn on behalf of Lord Townsend being Sponsors. He matriculated at Oxford as from Christ Church, 13th December, 1752, described as son of Stephen Poyntz, Esq. of St. James, Westminster, and aged 17.³ His mother, writing to her daughter on 6th January, 1761, says "this moment your brother Charles is come from the Archbishop. He went to kiss the Duke's hand this morning, and he spoke kindly to him. The Archbishop gave him a lift to Princess Emely, where luckily he stood by his Grace; when Charles kissed her hand, she turned to the Archbishop and said, 'My Lord he is my Godson, and I hope a good young man'" I know him to be so, quoth he, from a long acquaintance and friendship. She carried him home to dinner; Charles was so touched with her kindness, declared in so public a manner, and to one of the Royal family that

¹ Walpole's Letters to Sir Horace Mann, 2 series, Vol. i. p. 162.

² P.C.C. (453 Trevor).

³ Charles Townsend, son and heir to Charles, 2nd Viscount Townsend, He was summoned to the House of Lords during his father's life time as Baron Townsend of Lynn Regis, co. Norfolk, and took his seat according to his Grandfather's Patent of Creation. To distinguish him from his father, he was usually called Lord Lynn.

Vanlore

he could not say one word to him, but left Mrs. and Miss Talbot to return his thanks." It is presumed that the Archbishop mentioned was Thomas Secker, Archbishop of Canterbury, who had been translated from Chester in 1758, and held the See 10 years. Charles Poyntz was admitted to Holy Orders, and was instituted to the Rectory of North Creak, Norfolk, in 1760, upon the presentation of Hugh Earl of Marchmont, Beverston Filmer and John Spencer, Esq. and continued to hold that benefice until his death nearly fifty years afterwards. On the 16th June, 1769, he was collated to the Prebend of Langwen in the Cathedral of Llandaff, and on the 12th January, 1784, to the eighth stall in the Cathedral of Durham. It would appear also from a letter at Spencer House that he held some place at Court, for he writes of doing homage and of attendance on the King and Queen.

The expulsion of the most earnest and most learned of the Clergy, from Archbishop Sancroft downwards, because they could not violate their consciences by taking the oaths of allegiance to the Prince of Orange, having already sworn fealty to King James, was, as must be admitted, the loss of the best life blood of the Church, and the condition to which it was reduced during the Georgian period is notorious. The highest places were most unworthily filled. Dr. Charles Poyntz, is an example in point. Though a Doctor in Divinity, and a pluralist, as we have stated, he was a most disreputable character, a spendthrift and a profligate, so that he was obliged to leave the country for a while. Nevertheless his mother thought him a pattern priest. She writes, "If there was a Bishop of Hertford, and the Town could choose him, Charles would be the man, for he is adored here; he plays at the card parties, and behaves exactly as he should—his reading is much admired, he does not design to preach yet, whether he will do that as well I cannot tell, he may not by eloquence persuade people to live as they ought, but if they will follow his example I am sure they would do so." This letter is not dated. It is to be hoped that it was written before his grossest vices became apparent, and which we must refrain from alluding to more particularly, or the good-natured Archbishop must have been heartily ashamed of the man of whose good character he hesitated not to testify from "a long acquaintance and friendship." He died unmarried at the house of his sister the Dowager Countess Spencer on 10th May, 1809, to whom by his will dated 23rd June, 1806, he bequeathed the whole of his estate, and whom, with his nephew William Stephen, he appointed his executors, and they proved his will on 8th July, 1809.

Of this will William Stephen Poyntz writes to Lord Spencer on 17th May, 1809, as follows—"With respect to my uncle's affairs and more particularly

to his will, as relating to my aunt (Lady Spencer) nothing can be more dreadful or more serious. What his means and the demands against him are, I know not, but there is no demand we may not expect. The will is dated and witnessed by a Mr. Priestley, his wife and daughter, and I should conceive no one would have signed it but with a pistol to his heart. He makes my aunt and me joint executors, and my aunt sole heiress of every thing he has or may have subject "to all demands whatsoever against him then due or that may become due, whether gross sums, or annual, monthly, or weekly payments, whether legal or not, if written in his hand, though not signed by him, if signed by him without witnesses,' and several other similar clauses. This has opened my aunt's eyes and made her most wretched. As there are many papers sealed up endorsed 'to be destroyed by my executors unopened.' She is determined to act be the consequence what it may, but has promised to do nothing without your knowledge and advice," &c., &c.

Lousia eldest daughter of the Right Hon^{ble} Stephen Poyntz died unmarried. Like her mother she was a great letter writer. In the muniment room at Spencer House are some forty letters from her addressed to her sister Lady Spencer, several of them written in French, she having gone to France for the benefit of her health. In one of her letters dated 31st August, but unfortunately the year is not stated, she writes: "I am at length determined to accept of the Duke of Devonshire. You know how long the affair has been in debate, but the tenderness and attention of his behaviour, added to the magnificence of the place, has so worked on me, that, as I have told you before, I have determined to make him happy." This contemplated marriage did not take effect, but for what reason we know not. Probably it was the young lady's ill health.

Georgina Margaret the youngest daughter of Stephen Poyntz, born in 1738, married 27th December, 1755 in the 17th year of her age John Spencer the only son of John Spencer, third son of Charles, third Earl of Sunderland, born 18th December, 1734. This marriage was of a very romantic character. Mr. Spencer's father had died on 10th June, 1746, leaving him a Minor. The young lady was very beautiful and Mr. Spencer became violently enamoured of her. Horace Walpole call her the goddess of wisdom. We have several contemporary accounts of this remarkable wedding which cannot fail to be read with interest. The Poyntz family would appear to have been on a visit at Althorpe to celebrate the coming of age of Mr. Spencer. With reference to what happened we will give the precedence to the account of Mrs. Poyntz, the bride's mother, in a letter to Lady Sarah Cowper, written immediately upon

the completion of the ceremony. She says: "Mr. Spencer and "Don" (her daughter) began the ball in the hall with all the servants. Lord Cowper went into Lady Cowper's dressing room, so did I, the back way, and Mr. Spencer and William (her son) after us, but poor Holloway blundered about, and we could not get him in half an hour. When he came he would read every word of the special licence. Then we went into Lord Cowper's bed-chamber, took off the tops of two stools, and a pillow off the bed for Holloway and the young couple to kneel upon. Holloway read so slow, and prayed with such devotion that the ceremony lasted three quarters of an hour. Mr. Spencer and "Don" behaved as well as possible, with the greatest seriousness and spoke distinct though low. As soon as it was done, he kissed her and they both knelt quite down to Lady Cowper and almost to my lord. William cried a little, we all hugged and kissed and dispersed as soon as possible. They are all dancing. I must go and see them. Eleven o'clock. Not a creature mistrusts our wedding. I never saw anything equal to Mr. Spencer's behaviour this whole evening. "Don" looks haggard, but very happy. Both he and she are fast asleep now I hope in their several rooms." What was the reason for all this mystery, haste and excitement it is impossible to divine. All the parties would appear to have been free agents.

The following account (with some slight omissions) is given in a letter, written between 14th and 17th January, 1756, by Miss Glanville, afterwards the famous Mrs. Delany, to her sister Anne. With reference to the bride and bridegroom, she writes: "They had been for sometime attached to each other, and on the day that Mr. Spencer came of age he told Mr. Poyntz, her brother, who happened to be on a visit to Althorpe, that he was determined to make Miss Poyntz his wife as soon as he was master of himself, so he entreated they might be married next day. His request was granted, and it was managed that although fifty persons were in the house, none of them knew anything about the matter, except Lord and Lady Cowper (Lady Cowper being Mr. Spencer's mother), Mrs. Poyntz and her eldest son, and it was not declared until the Saturday after."

On the 27th December, after ten, the parties necessary for the wedding, stole by degrees from the company into Lady Cowper's Dressing room, where the ceremony was performed, and they returned different ways to the company again, and joined dancing with them. After supper every body retired as usual to their different apartments. Miss Poyntz and her sister lay from their first coming to Althorp, in the best apartments, and Miss Louisa resigned her place on this occasion.



Sir Joshua Reynolds, Pinxt.

S. W. Reynolds, Sculp.

MARGARET GEORGIANA POYNTZ.

(COUNTESS SPENCER.)

They have been most graciously received at Court and by Lord Granville, who declares himself Mr. Spencer's Rival, so at present there is as much happiness in that family as a mortal heart can contain. All enquired after you and will take it ill if you do not come in person to wish them joy.

The Town had married Miss Poyntz to Lord Fordwich, who, unluckily for a lover, is gone to school this very day." We should not be excused by our lady readers, if any honour us so far as to read what we have written, if we suppressed the following description of the bride's costume by the same pen—

"She was married in a white and silver trimmed—I cannot remember the rest, only a pink satin with embroidered facings and robings in silver, done by Mr. Glegg. Her first suit she went to Court in was a white and silver, as fine as brocade and silver could make it; the second, blue and silver, the third, pink, white and gold colour, £6 a yard; the fourth, plain pink-colour satin. Her diamonds worth £12,000, her earrings three drops, all diamonds, no paltry scrolls of silver; her necklace most perfect brilliants, the middle stone worth £1,000 set at the edge with small brilliants. Her cap all brilliants, made in the fashion of a small butterfly skeleton, has a very good effect, with a pompion, and behind where you may suppose the bottom of the caul, a knot of diamonds, with little puffs of diamonds where the lappets are fastened, and two shaking sprigs of brilliants for her hair, six roses, all brilliants for stays, set in the form of a star, and a seal of a Mercury cut in very fine turquoise stone, set as a standing for a spaniel dog, the body of a pearl of the size of the Duchess of Portland's dolphin, the head and neck made out with gold finely wrought, two little brilliants for eyes and a brilliant collar. It cost seventy guineas."

Mr. Spencer on the 3rd April, 1761, was created Baron and Viscount Spencer of Althorp, and on 1st November, 1765, Earl Spencer and Viscount Althorp, He died October, 1783, leaving issue by his wife, Georgina Margaret, an only son named George John,¹ ancestor of the present Earl Spencer, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and two daughters, Georgiana, the beautiful Duchess of Devonshire, ancestress of the present Duke, and Henrietta-Frances, who married Frederick, third Earl of Besborough, and was the ancestress of the present Earl and of the Lord De Mauley.

¹ The following account appears in the Parish Registers of Wimbarton, Surrey, 1758, October 16th. Baptised George John, son of John Spencer, Esq., and Georgina, his wife, born 1st September. His Majesty and Earl Cowper being godfathers, the Duchess of Marlborough and Lady Dowager Bateman godmothers. It is remarkable that his Majesty, King George II. was godfather, not only to this young gentleman, but to his mother, daughter of the Honble. Stephen Poyntz, and to his grandmother, daughter of Earl Granville.

Sir Denis le Marchant writes :—"Horace Walpole sneers at Lord Spencer for having married the daughter of a nobleman's tutor, as if an alliance with the family of Mr. Poyntz, who, solely by his own merit, had risen to be the Minister Plenipotentiary in Sweden, one of the Commissioners at the Congress of Soissons, and a member of the Privy Council, could be regarded as degradation. Mr. Poyntz was highly esteemed in his day as a diplomatist. He belonged to a knightly family which, after having flourished for some centuries in Gloucestershire, had latterly settled in Berkshire. He happened in early life, shortly after he left College, to travel with the Duke of Devonshire, and hence the attack of Horace Walpole. He was afterwards Governor to Prince Willam. If not nobly born, Lady Spencer, as I am assured by one of her descendants who has a vivid recollection of her, was "eminently high bred in air and manner, a winning sweetness with great dignity and benevolence of expression giving her a peculiar charm." This was in her decline. In youth, she had been the delight of society by her innocent and graceful sprightliness, and that desire to please, which seldom fails, when, as in her case, it has its origin in a pure heart and a well-regulated mind. She married early, and the attachment of her husband, who was reputed the richest commoner of his day, placed every indulgence at her disposal. The jewels with which he presented her on her marriage were of a splendour which excited the admiration, perhaps the envy, of her female friends, one of whom in a letter written at the time (1755) describes them with an amazing particularity. (See above). Prosperity never seemed a trial to her. She had no pride, no feeling of exclusiveness, and yet her acquaintance was courted by the most fastidious of the class to which she had been elevated. Lord March, afterwards Duke of Queensbury, a cynical courtier, and an accute observer of life, writing to George Selwyn from Althorp, in 1767, says—"I wish you were here. The more I see of the Mistress of the House, the more I admire her, and our Landlord improves very much upon acquaintance. They are really the happiest people I think I ever saw in the marriage system."¹

Her published letters are not remarkable for originality of thought, or power of observation. Their merit lies in their good sense, ease and simplicity, as well as in the admirable spirit which is said to have pervaded all she said and did. David Garrick has recorded with warm admiration the impression her conversation made upon him.

In her old age, having lost her husband and her beautiful and accomplished

¹ Memoirs of Lord Althorp by Sir Denis le Marchant.

daughter, the Duchess of Devonshire, chastened but not subdued by sorrow, Lady Spencer withdrew from London, and passed the remaining years of her life entirely in the country. Her residence was in the immediate neighbourhood of the charitable establishment, founded at St. Albans by her husband's ancestress, Sarah Duchess of Marlborough, the superintendence of which, and providing for the wants of the inmates, became her favorite employment. She was also one of the first in the higher classes to adopt Sunday Schools. Mrs. Trimmer was her frequent guest and became her most attached friend, and she gives an interesting account of her.¹

William Poyntz, son and heir of Stephen Poyntz, was born early in 1734 and was baptized at St. Martins-in-the-Fields, Westminster, in April of that year, the Earl of Peterborough with the Queen, and the Duke of Cumberland being spousers. He matriculated at Oxford as from Christ Church on 17th January, 1752, described as the son of Stephen Poyntz, Esq., of St. Martins, West^r aged 17. He took his B.A. degree 22nd June, 1756, and proceeded M.A. 26th June, 1760. He had succeeded to his estates on the death of his father in 1750. He married at St. James', Westminster, 22nd April, 1762, Isabella Courtenay, daughter of Kelland Courtenay, of Painsford, co. Devon,² second son of Sir William Courtenay, of Powderham, by Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Popham, of Littlecote, co. Wilts, by his wife, Lady Ann Montagu, daughter of Ralph, Duke of Montagu. Mrs. Poyntz died at Midgham, of apoplexy, 21st April, 1805, at the age of sixty-three.³

William Poyntz made no great figure in the country, as his father had done, but appears to have lived quietly on his estate, and, judging from his portrait, a noble full length by Gainsborough,⁴ he took pleasure in the sports of the field. He is represented as carrying a gun, accompanied by a dog, They are protected by a hollow tree, a favourite object in Gainsborough's pictures. near a willow brook as on the look-out for waterfowl. - He died 13th May, 1809, aged seventy-five, and his will is registered in 576 Loveday. He was buried at Midgham, where there is a monument to his memory.

William Poyntz left issue seven children, three sons and four daughters, some of them remarkable in their generation.

¹ Memoirs of Lord Althorp by Sir Denis le Marchant.

² Anne, Kelland Courtenay's other daughter, married Edmund seventh Earl of Cork, which marriage was dissolved in 1782, and with other issue had a son Courtenay, who in 1799 married Caroline Amelia, daughter of William Poyntz.

³ Gent's. Magazine and Annual Register, May, 1805.

⁴ The original is in the possession of Earl Spencer, who lent it for the collection of National Portraits exhibited at South Kensington a few years ago.

Of William Stephen Poyntz, his eldest son, we will write presently.

Mordaunt Montagu Poyntz, the second son, baptised at Midgham in 1783, was, unhappily a lunatic, and so died on 21st May, 1820, aged thirty-eight years, s.p.

Charles Courtenay Poyntz, the third son, baptized 7th May, 1775. Of him we cannot give any information except that he died s.p.

Georgina Ann Poyntz, eldest daughter, born 21st April, 1763, married 1st February, 1784, William Augustus Fawkner, eldest son of Sir Everard Falkener, (so he wrote his name) Knt^d September 1735, of Westhorpe House, Little Marlow, Citizen and Mercer, of London. William Augustus became Secretary to the Duke of Cumberland, sent as Ambassador to the Porte and appointed Postmaster-General. He was a great friend of Voltaire. He was a Captain in the Guards and was sent as Envoy Extraordinary to St. Petersburg and Minister Plenipotentiary at Florence, and Clerk of the Council. On the 27th May, 1786 he fought a duel in Hyde Park with Lord John Townsend, second son of George first Marquis Townsend, whose hat he pierced with a bullet, the latter firing in the air. We can only infer the cause of this quarrel from the circumstances which followed. Mr. Fawkener, early in 1787, obtained a divorce from his wife by Act of Parliament, and on the 10th April in the same year she became the wife of Lord John. He was six years the junior of his wife having been born in 1757. Was M.P. for Cambridge University 1780, for Westminster 1788, and for Knaresborough 1793. He died 25th February, 1833 and she 4th May, 1851.

Charlotte Louisa, second daughter, born 14th November, 1766, of whom it will be sufficient to refer to the tabular pedigree.

Isabella Henrietta was Maid of Honour to Queen Charlotte. On 9th October, 1795, she married Edmund Boyle, Viscount Dungarvon, who, on the death of his father in 1798, succeeded as eighth Earl of Cork, and was the grandmother of the present Earl. Caroline Amelia, the youngest daughter, born in 1773, married in 1799 the Hon^{ble} Courtenay Boyle, younger brother of Edmund Earl of Cork last mentioned.

William Stephen Poyntz son and heir of William Poyntz of Midgham and Isabella Courtenay his wife was baptized there on 20th January, 1770. He matriculated at Oxford as from Christ Church 29th June, 1787, aged 17, but does not appear to have taken a degree. He was M.P. for St. Albans 1802 and 1806, and for Callington 1813. He married Elizabeth Mary Browne daughter of Anthony Joseph, seventh Viscount Montagu of Cowdray Co. Sussex, and sister and sole heir of George Samuel the eighth Viscount.

Mr. Poyntz is described as a "remarkably handsome man, very tall, and with a bright fresh complexion"¹

By this marriage he acquired the manors of Midhurst, and Cowdray with Cowdray Park, the Battle Abbey Estates and all the other princely possessions of the family of Browne in Sussex and elsewhere, but whether or no it brought with it a blessing or a curse who shall say?

The history of the acquisition of these manors and the circumstances attending it must be briefly noticed, but chiefly the lands of Battle Abbey and of Easebourne Priory require our attention.

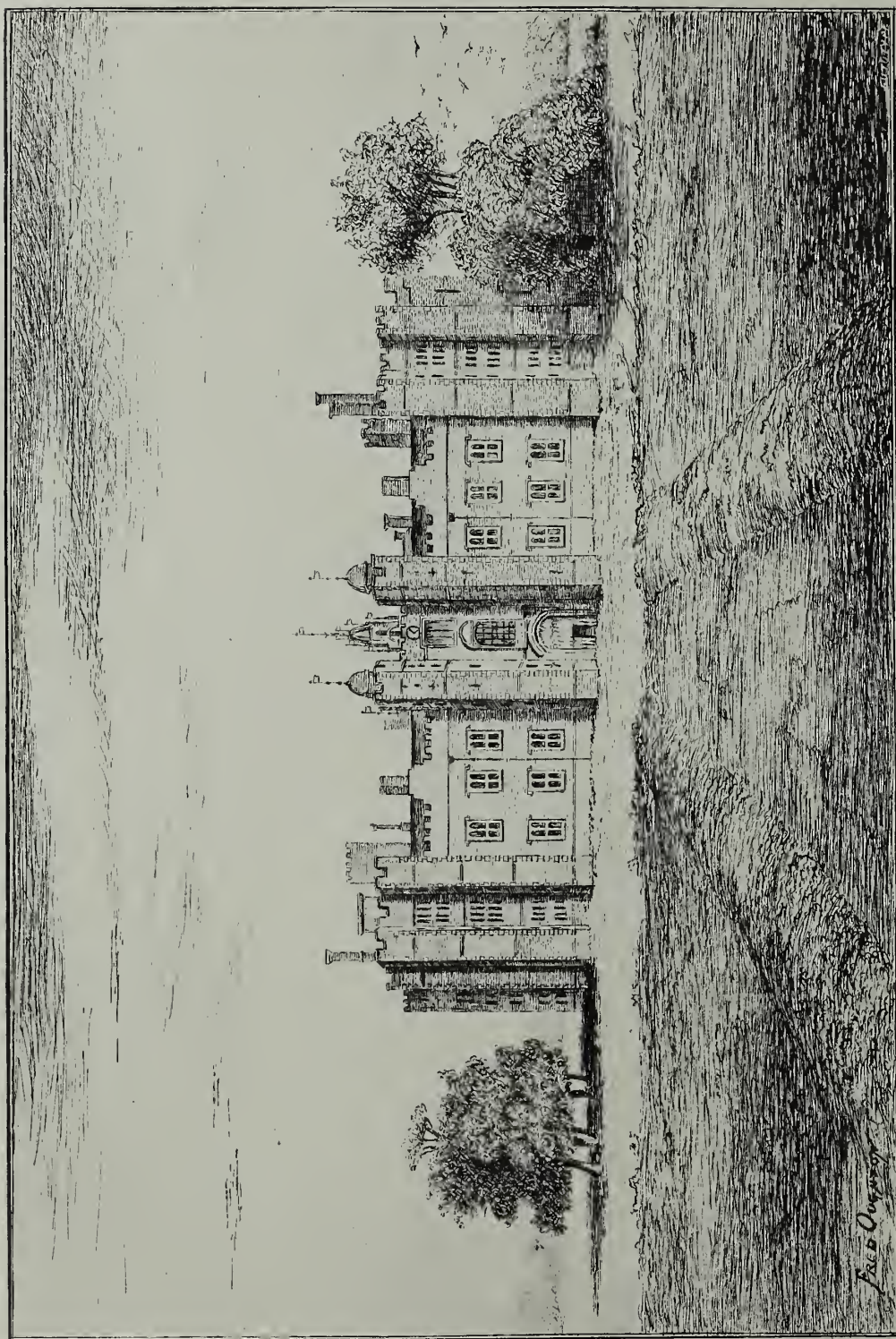
The manors of Cowdray and Midhurst originally belonged to the Bohun family, from whom they passed by marriage to Sir Davy Owen, who sold the estate to Sir William FitzWilliam, by whom, in the reign of Henry VII, Cowdray House was first built. Sir William was the second son of Sir Thomas FitzWilliam, of Aldwark, co. York, by Lucy, daughter and coheir of John Nevil, Marquis Montacute, brother of the King-Maker. Lady Lucy survived her husband, and married secondly Sir Anthony Browne, who was Standard Bearer to King Henry VII, one of the Esquires of the King's Body, Constable of Calais, and held various other high offices. He was succeeded by his son, another Sir Anthony, who was the first of the Barons of Cowdray. He was also an eminent soldier and a great favourite of King Henry VII, by whom he was created K.G., and on the 15th Aug., 1538, received "a grant of the house and scite of the late monastery of Battle in Sussex, to him, his heirs and assigns for ever." Within three months after the surrender of the house, the establishment of Sir Anthony Browne was settled at Battle in the Abbot's lodging, and all the rest of the Monastic buildings, including the Church, the Chapter house and all other portions of this beautiful Abbey was razed to the ground. A garden was laid out on the site of the Church, a double row of yew trees being planted along what had been the nave. It has been suggested that his marriage with Alice, the daughter of Sir John Gage, who was one of the Commissioners who carried out the Act of Dissolution as regarded Battle, might have had an influence in obtaining for him so valuable a grant. Besides the Abbey of Battle, Sir Anthony had other large grants of Church property, and in 1543 he inherited from his half brother, the Earl of Southampton, the Priory of Easeborne, to whom, together with other Church lands, it had been granted in 1536. After having held many high offices, he died in 1548, when he was succeeded by his son, Sir Anthony Browne, who was knighted at the Coronation of King Edward 6th, and was

¹ Cowdray, by Mrs. Charles Roundell, p. 106.

created Viscount Montagu by Queen Mary on the occasion of her marriage to Philip of Spain. It will not be necessary to trace the succession of the Viscounts Montagu. For our purpose it will suffice to say that Anthony, the sixth Viscount, in 1719 sold Battle Abbey to Sir Thomas Webster. Lord Anthony died in 1767, and was succeeded by his only surviving son Anthony Joseph, as seventh Viscount, who was the first of his family to abandon the Romish Communion. He married Francis Mackworth, relict of Alexander Lord Halkerton, by whom he had only two children, a son named George Samuel, born 1769, and a daughter named Elizabeth Mary, born 1767. Lord Anthony Joseph died 11th April, 1787, having been previously reconciled to the Romish Church, and was succeeded by his only son as eighth Viscount. With him commenced the direful calamities which befel Cowdray and its possessors.

We all know Sir Henry Spelman's work against sacrilege by the acquisition of lands devoted to religious uses, and shewing the ruin of the families who were participating therein. The great possessions of the family of Browne were nearly all derived from the spoils of the Church, and Sir Henry Spelman relates the fearful curse which was pronounced generally upon those who were guilty of that crime. Moreover, it is said that a tradition existed with respect to Battle Abbey, that when Sir Anthony Browne was holding a great banquet in the Abbot's Hall to celebrate his taking possession, a monk, in the habit of his order, made his way through the guests to the dais on which Sir Anthony sat and cursed him to his face. He pronounced the doom which should cleave to his family until it should cease to exist, ending with the words: "By fire and water thy line shall come to an end, and it shall perish out of the land." Another tradition is related with respect to Easebourne Priory. When the King's Commissioners came to demand the surrender of the House, the sub-prioress was required to sign the deed, when she said: "Heed ye well my masters what ye do. The pious founders of this house left a heavy and terrible malison on all who should molest and harry us, poor unworthy servants though we be of Christ and St. Benedict, and on all who in after time should aid or profit by a deed of sacrilege. As the traditions of our house and of the faithful people of Easebourne attest, a curse of fire and water on the male children and heirs of the spoilers is invoked by those who gave lands and protection to the spouses of Christ dwelling in Easebourne Priory, for the rest of their souls, and in perpetual remembrance of their charity. That curse ye are about to incur. He who takes these lands it shall come upon him, and his name shall die out. It shall follow as the heritage of the race that comes after him, and it shall continue even unto the end."

PLATE IX.



Several generations of the Brownes passed away in peace in the highest favour of their respective sovereigns, and crowned with wealth, honours, and dignities. Nevertheless, the avenger only tarried. Without being too credulous or superstitious, or placing too much faith in the traditions we have recited, the circumstances which we are about to relate, and which, in fact, occurred, are very remarkable.

The eighth Lord Montagu who, unlike all his ancestors, had been brought up, so far as he had any religion at all, a rigid Protestant of the sect of Lady Huntingdon, when he had attained the age of twenty-four years determined upon a tour on the continent, and, accompanied by his friend Mr. Charles Sedley Burdett, elder brother of the famous Sir Francis Burdett, and attended by an old faithful servant from Cowdray, proceeded to the Rhine. Being at Laufenburg, about half-way between Basle and Schaffhausen, they determined to make a foolhardy attempt to shoot the falls. Every effort was made to prevent them but their resolution could not be shaken, even though soldiers were placed on the banks of the river to stop them, so having a boat specially built for the occasion and eluding all obstacles, at the last moment Lord Montagu breaking from the clutches of his faithful servant who endeavoured to stop him, reminding him of the *curse of water*, they embarked and were both drowned. The servant remained at Laufenberg some little time in the endeavour to recover the body of his master but without success, though his body was eventually found, but Mr. Burdett's never appeared.

Meanwhile the magnificent mansion of Cowdray which could hardly be surpassed in England, and which, according to Mr. Freeman, "belongs to that happy moment of our national art when purely domestic architecture was at its height," was, on 24th September, 1593, utterly destroyed by fire with all its treasures of art. The messenger, it is said, who was sent to communicate this frightful disaster to his master, met his master's servant at Calais returning to England with the account of that master's death. Lord Montagu by his will, dated 13th November, 1792, bequeathed all his estates and other effects to his only sister Elizabeth Mary Browne, which, as we have before stated, she carried in marriage to William Stephen Poyntz to whom we must now return.

Mr. and Mrs. Poyntz on their return from their honeymoon were received with great rejoicing. At the gates of the Park they were met by a crowd of the tenantry, and, the horses being removed, were drawn to the entrance of the house by a number of boys draped in white. But as Mr. Roundell remarks, "in spite of this kind welcome, Mrs. Poyntz must have felt that her return to Cowdray was a time of sorrow rather than of joy. Before her

eyes was the blackened ruin of her beautiful old home, that magnificent seat of her ancestors, in which she felt so much interest and pride; and to her heart was the sad remembrance of her only brother to whom she had been devotedly attached. The accident to Lord Montagu and the fire at Cowdray, had both taken place the year before Mrs. Poyntz's marriage.

Cowdray House was no longer habitable, but in that year (1794) the Keeper's Lodge in the Park was enlarged and there Mr. and Mrs. Poyntz resided. They lived very quietly and there Mrs. Poyntz's mother, the Dowager Viscountess Montagu, lived with them.

By this marriage Mr. Poyntz had issue five children, two sons named William Montagu Browne, born 1801, and Courtenay John, born in 1805. The three daughters were—Frances Selina Isabella, Elizabeth Georgina, and Isabella, the youngest, said to be one of the greatest beauties of her time. As the possessor of considerable estates in Berks, and, moreover, in right of his wife, of the large possessions of the Browne family in Sussex and elsewhere, Mr. Poyntz, after the death in 1797, without issue, of Mark Antony Brown, who as a distant cousin claimed and was admitted to the title as ninth Viscount Montagu, was anxious to obtain the restoration of the title to his eldest son. In consequence of his great political and family influence he probably would have been successful in this object, but it was otherwise decreed. The malediction upon the holders of the Church lands, as it was believed, was not yet removed.

In June, 1815, Mr. and Mrs. Poyntz, accompanied by their two sons and two unmarried daughters, went to Bognor, where they occupied the Pavilion House. On the 7th July, as the weather was warm and the sea quite calm, Mr. Poyntz proposed to take his children, with two young ladies, visitors, out in a boat. Mrs. Poyntz, who had a dread of the sea, objected, but eventually she gave a reluctant consent. Mr. Poyntz and his two sons, accompanied by the two young ladies, set off on the excursion, the youngest daughter, Isabella, being left behind because she was not ready in time. Mrs. Poyntz and her two daughters sat at the window watching the boat. All went well until about the middle of the afternoon, when a sudden puff of wind struck the sail and the boat was at once capsized. The following is the account of the accident given in the "*Gentleman's Magazine*"¹ of the time:—July 7th, 1815—In the afternoon about four o'clock, as Colonel Poyntz, his two sons, and their tutor, Miss Parry and Miss Emily Parry (daughters of the late Admiral Parry, of Fareham), a fisherman, and his son, were returning to Bognor in a pleasure yacht, a sudden gust of wind upset the boat, when the whole party, except Colonel Poyntz and the boatman, were drowned; the latter saved the Colonel by swimming with him on

¹ Vol. lxxxv. ii, p. 79.

his back. Mrs. Poyntz was looking from the drawing-room window the moment the accident happened."

"Mr. Poyntz managed to lay hold of the boat and his two boys clung for some time to his coat, he supporting them as best he could. But all his efforts were in vain. Whether from fatigue, or from cramp, they dropped off and the father had the misery of feeling one after the other slip from him and sink to rise no more." The curse of water thus prevailed to the destruction of the male issue of the family.

The agony endured by Mrs. Poyntz in witnessing her husband and sons perishing before her eyes can be better conceived than described. She never recovered from the shock. Though she survived this terrible calamity many years, the awful scene was ever present to her mind. Daily "She wept the terrors of the fearful wave." Of the daughters :

1. Frances Selina Isabella married 1st, 4th Aug., 1814, Robert Cotton St. John, 18th Baron Clinton, who died in Oct., 1832, 2nd, Sir Horace Beauchamp Seymour, K.C.B., as his second wife, and died 29th August, 1875, s.p.
2. Elizabeth Georgina married 23rd February, 1830, her second cousin Frederick, fourth Earl Spencer, and was the mother of John Poyntz, the fifth Earl, now, 1885, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. She died 7th April, 1851.
3. Isabella married, 12th May, 1824, Brownlow, second Marquis of Exeter, and was the mother of the present Marquis. Died 6th March, 1879.

Mr. and Mrs. Poyntz continued to reside in the Keeper's Lodge at Cowdray until after the death of the latter, which occurred on the 30th of December, 1830. Subsequent to this he did not live much there, but spent the greater part of his time with his daughters, and in London. Being on a visit to Althorp in 1836, when hunting with his son-in-law, Lord Spencer, his horse put his foot in a rabbit hole, fell, and threw him on the head with great violence. He lived for some four years in constant suffering, and on the 8th April, 1840, died very suddenly at Hampton Court from the effects of this fall. By his death the estates devolved upon his three daughters and co-heirs as tenants in common. No one of them was able to purchase the shares of the others, and at length they agreed to sell the estate in its entirety, and found a purchaser in the 6th Earl of Egmont for the sum of £330,000.

The grand old mansion was never restored. Lord and Lady Egmont continued to occupy the Keeper's Lodge and paid little attention to the old ruins. Lady Egmont died in 1870. Her husband survived her about four years, and when on his death, the estates devolved upon the present Earl, the Keeper's Lodge was pulled down and a new house has been built on its site, not near the site of the old mansion.

¹ "Cowdray," by Mrs. Roundell, p. 108.

PEDIGREE OF POYNTZ OF

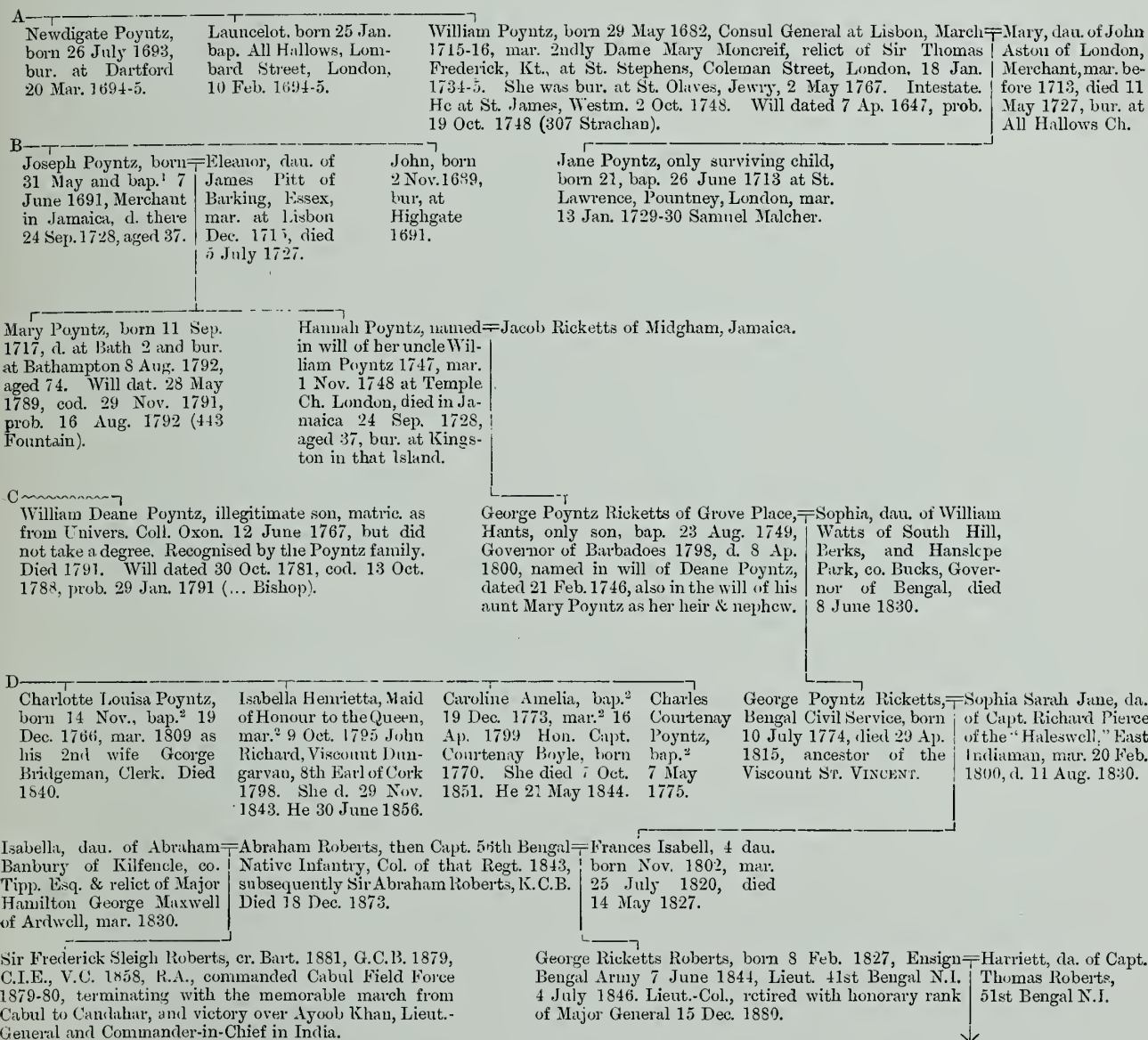
TABLE

<p>Mary, dau. of ...=William, son of Newdigate Poyntz=Jane, dau. of Stephen Monteage of London, Avery of London, of Benefield by his third wife Mary Merchant, by Jane Deane, sister of Richard bur.¹ 3 Jan. Parkyns. An Upholsterer in Lon- Deane, a General at Sea during the Common- 1679-80. don, died 1720, bur. at Battersea. wealth, mar. 4 Ap. 1681, bur. at Battersea. (For Memoir of RICHARD DEANE, see Appendix).</p>				
Mary Poyntz, bap. ¹ 5 April 1674, mar. ¹ John Paine and bur. at Dartford 12 Jan. 1708-9.	Martha Poyntz, bap. ¹ 9 Ap. 1676, named in wills of Christ Jeaffreson 1725 and of nephew Rob. Poyntz of Padworth 1744, then unmar.	John Poyntz, bap. ¹ 31 Mar. 1678, bur. ¹ 19 Jan. 1679-80.	Hannah Poyntz, born and bap. at St Mary Abchurch, 13 March 1697-8.	Jane Poyntz, bap. ¹ 26 Mar. 1684, died 10 Dec. 1710, bur. St. Benet's, Gracechurch Street, London.
<p>Stephen Poyntz of Midgham, born 12, bap.¹ .. Nov. 1685, M.A. King's Coll. Camb. 1706, Joint Treas. of Excise 1722, Comm. of Excise 1723, Amb. to Sweden 1724, Amb. Congress, Soissons, 1727-8, Governor to Duke of Cumberland 1730, P.C. Feb. 1734-5.</p>				
<p>Anna Maria, dau. of Lewis Mordaunt, grandson of John, Earl of Peterborough. Died 14 Nov. 1771. Will dat. 20 Sep. & prob. 6 Dec. 1771, (453 Trevor).</p>				
<p>Deane Poyntz, Florence, da. of Robert born 3, bap. 17 Ap. 1687, Mer- Fulton of Jamaica, mar. chant in Jam- there 12 July 1715. aica, bur. there She mar. 2ndly Jan. 1725-6. Blechenden.</p>				
<p>Robert Poyntz of Padworth, Mary Crawford, sister oo. Berks, Capt. of Marines, of the Hon. Edm. Hyde, 2 son, d. 29 June 1749, bur. Chief Justice of Jamai- at St. Anne's, Soho, Middx. ca, mar. 1741, d. 1780. Admo. to Daniel Firth, cre- Will dated 27 Nov. ditor, which was afterwards 1777, prob. 16 Oct. revoked. Will dated 1 Mar. 1780 (485 Collier). 1744-5, prob. 12 June 1752, (167 Battersworth), s.p.</p>				
<p>William Poyntz, eldest son, b. in Jamaica 9 July 1716, died there 18 Nov. the same year.</p>				
<p>Jane Poyntz, born 16 June 1718, mar. at the Mercer's Chapel. London, 24 Oct. 1734 Tho. Garbrand.</p>				
<p>Mary Poyntz, named in the wills of her bro. Robert 1744-5 & her bro. Deane 1746.</p>				
<p>Deane Poyntz, 3 son, appointed Equery to the Duke of Cumberland 14 Jan. 1747, d. 1 June 1749. Will dated 21 Feb. 1746, prob. 16 Feb. 1749-50 (55 Greenley).</p>				
<p>William Poyntz, son and heir, bap. St. Martins in the Fields, Middx., ... Ap. 1734, matric. from Ch. Ch. Oxford, 17 Jan. 1752, aged 17, B.A. 22 June 1756, M.A. 26 June 1760, died 13 May 1809, aged 75. Will (576 Loveday). M.I.²</p>				
<p>Isabella, dau. of Kelland Courtenay of Painsford, co. Devon, by Elizabeth, dau. of Edward Richard, Viscount Hitchingbroke, mar. at St. James, Westminster, 22 Ap. 1762, died at Midgham 22 Ap. 1805.</p>				
<p>Charles Poyntz, b. 1735, matric. as from Ch. Ch. Oxon. 13 Dec. 1752, aged 17, D.D., in Holy Orders, Rector of North Creek, Norfolk, 1760, coll. to the Prebend of Langwan in Dioc. of Llandaff 16 June 1769 and to a stall at Durham 12 Jan. 1784, died 10 May 1809, unmar.</p>				
<p>Louisa Poyntz, died unmar.</p>				
<p>Georgina Poyntz, b. 1738, mar. 27 Dec. 1755 to John Spencer, eldest son of John, 1st Viscount Spencer, created 3 Ap. 1761 Viscount & Baron Spencer of Althorp, and Earl Spencer 1 Nov. 1765. Died Oct. 1783, aged 49. She d. 18 Mar. 1814, aged 76.</p>				
<p>William Stephen Poyntz, son & heir, bap.² 20 Jan. 1770, matric. as from Ch. Ch. Oxon. 29 June 1787, aged 17. Died 8 Ap. 1840.</p>				
<p>Elizabeth Mary, dau. of Anthony Joseph Browne, 7th Viscount Montagu, and sister and sole heir of George Samuel the 8th Viscount, born 6 Feb. 1767, mar. 1 Sep. 1794. Died 30 Dec. 1830, aged 64.</p>				
<p>Mordaunt Montagu Poyntz, bap.² 1783, died 21 May 1820, aged 38. Bur.²</p>				
<p>Georgina Ann Poyntz, born 21 Ap. 1763, mar. 1st William Fawcner, Clerk of the Council, which marriage was annulled by Act of Parl. She mar. 2ndly Lord John Townshend. Died 4 May 1851.</p>				
<p>William Montagu Browne, b. 1801.</p>				
<p>Both drowned at Bognor, 7th July, 1815.</p>				
<p>Courtenay John Browne, b. 1805.</p>				
<p>Frances Selina Isabella Poyntz, mar. first 4 Aug. 1814 Robert, Baron Clinton and Say, who died Oct. 1832. She mar. 2ndly 2 July 1835 Sir Horace Beauchamp Seymour as his second wife. She d. Aug. 1875. Grandmother of the present (1885) Baron CLINTON.</p>				
<p>Elizabeth Georgina Poyntz, mar. 23 Feb. 1830 Frederick 4 Earl Spencer, grandson of Georgina, dau. of Stephen Poyntz of Midgham, her father's aunt. She died 10 Ap. 1851. Mother of the present (1885) Earl SPENCER, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.</p>				
<p>Isabella Poyntz, mar. at St. George's, Hanover Sq. 14 May 1824 Brownlow, 2 Marquis of Exeter. She died 6 Mar. 1879. Mother of the present (1885) Marquis of EXETER.</p>				

¹ At St. Michael's, Cornhill.² At Midgham.

MIDGHAM AND COWDRAY.

XI.



¹ At St. Michael's, Cornhill.

² At Midgham.

NAMES OF QUARTERINGS OF THE POYNTZ FAMILY

B.P. Misl. Pedigrees, Vol. xiii, 425.

1. POYNTZ	44. BOYS	87. CLARE	130. BRIAN
2. BARDOLPH	45. SCALES	88. GIFFORD	131. HOLLOWAY
3. MALET	46. BEAUFIN	89. MCMURROUGH	132. ORCHARD
4. BASSET	47. LIZEURS	90. TILNEY	133. SPENCER
5. ACTON	48. ROFFA	91. ROSS	134. BEAUFORT
6. ANVRE	49. UFFORD	92. ROCHFORD	135. HOLLAND
7. CLANVOWE	50. VESEY	93. ST. HILLARY	136. ZOUCHE
8. FITZ NICHOL	51. GLANVILLE	94. THORP	137. ROHAN
9. WIDVILLE	52. VALOINES	95. CREKE	138. BRITTANY
10. NEWDIGATE	53. CREKE	96. GLANVILLE	139. BEAUMES
11. MALMAYNES	54. GLANVILLE	97. BAYNARD	140. QUINCY
12. ECHINGTON, or WICHENHAM	55. BLUND	98. NORWOOD	141. BELLOMONT
13. MORDAUNT	56. NORWICH	99. ASPALL	142. MELLENT
14. ALNO	57. TENDRING	100. ST. JOHN	143. GWADYR
15. BRADSTON	58. KERDESTON	101. UNFRAVILLE	144. FITZOSBORN
16. DOUNO	59. GAUNT	102. DE LA BERE	145. CRESPON
17. BOTREAUX	60. BACON	103. TURBERVILLE	146. YVERY
18. BROC	61. QUAPLODE	104. JESTIN	147. GRANTESMENIL
19. PEROT	62. MOWBRAY	105. PAVELEY	148. GALLOWAY
20. GOVE	63. NIGEL	106. STEWRY	149. MORVILLE
21. STRANGE	64. FITZHAMON	107. BEAUCHAMP of Powyke	150. LONGSPEE
22. BOLYVALL	65. BEAUCHAMP of Bedford	108. BEAUCHAMP of Elmley	151. EVEREUX
23. LATYMER	66. BREWSE	109. BEAUCHAMP, ancient	152. RIDDLESFORD
24. BRAYBROOKE	67. MILO	110. ABTOT	153. PLANTAGENET of Woodstock
25. NEWMURCH	68. NEWMARCH	111. MAUDUIT	154. WAKE
26. ST. LEIGE	69. TOLENAIS	112. NEWBURGH	155. GAUNT
27. LEDETT	70. SEGRAVE	113. NEWBURGH, ancient	156. BREWER
28. FOLYOTT	71. CHACOMBE	114. BELLOMONT	157. STUTEVILLE
29. KEYNCOURT	72. PLANTAGENET of Brotherton	115. MILLENT	158. QUINCY
30. GOVIS	73. FITZALAN	116. HARECOURT	159. BELLOMONT
31. VERE	74. CLUN	117. PATESHALL	160. MELLENT
32. TAY	75. D'AUBINEY	118. BROYE	161. GWADYR
33. GREENE	76. ST. HILLARY	119. STEINGRAVE	162. FITZOSBORN
34. DRAYTON	77. KEVELIOC	120. BEAUCHAMP of Bedford	163. CRESPON
35. MAUDUIT	78. GERNONS	121. WAKE	164. YVERY
36. FITZ JAMES	79. MESCHINES	122. GRANDSON	165. GRANTESMENIL
37. FITZ LEWIS, ancient	80. LUPUS	123. TREGOZ	166. BEAUCHAMP of Elmley
38. HARLESTON	81. ALGAR	124. EWYAS	167. BEAUCHAMP, ancient
39. LOVELL	82. HAMLYN PLANTAGENET	125. FISHER	168. ABTOT
40. WAUTON	83. WARREN	226. TROWYCK	169. MAUDUIT
41. BARDWELL	84. MARSHALL	127. STURGEON	170. NEWBURGH
42. HOWARD	85. MARSHALL, ancient	128. DAVERS	171. NEWBURGH, ancient
43. FITTON	86. STRONGBOW	129. CAREY	

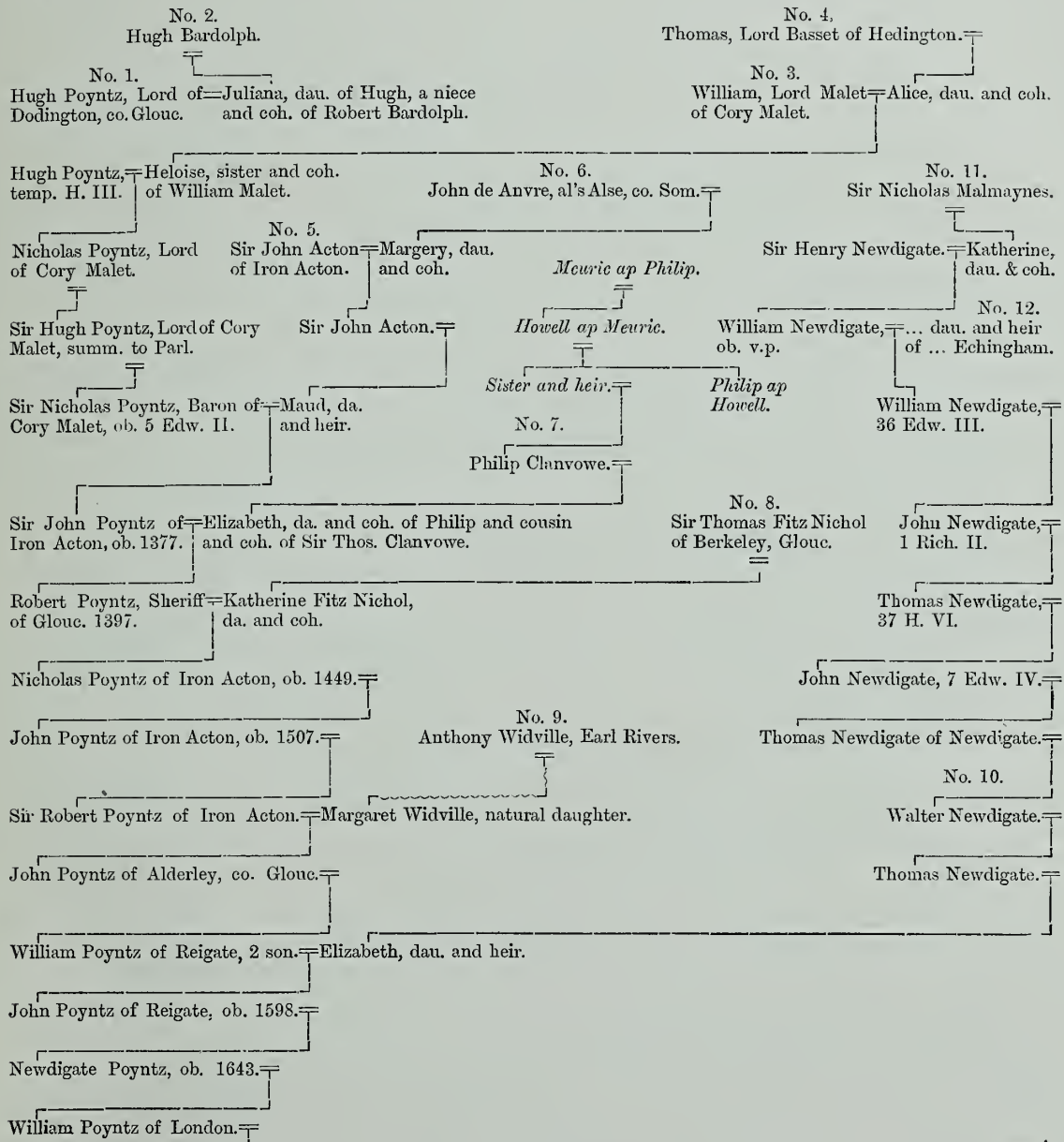
172. BELLOMONT	224. POMEROY, with CHIDLEY on a canton	274. ENLOWESA	325. GALLOWAY
173. MELLENT		275. BUDOKESHYDE	326. MORVILLE
174. HARECOURT	225. VALLETORT	276. TREVALVARD	327. LONGSPEE
175. FITZ GEFERY	226. NOVANT	277. TRENCREEK	328. EVEREUX
176. TONY	227. TOTENAI	278. BROWNE.	329. RIDLESFORD
177. WALTHEOF	228. CHALONS	279. FITZALAN	330. PLANTAGENET of Wood- stock
178. ALDRED	229. LEIGH.	280. CLUN	331. WAKE
179. BERKELEY	230. CHALETON	281. D'ALBINEY	332. GAUNT
180. LISLE	231. HELION	282. ST. HILLARY	333. BREWER
181. LISLE, ancient	232. CANTELUPE	283. KEVELIOC	334. STUTEVILLE
182. TEYS	233. PLEWET	284. GERNONS	335. QUINCY
183. PIPARD	234. BEAUCHAMP of Hache	285. MESCHINES	336. BELLOMONT
184. BOLEYN	235. VIVONIA	286. LUPUS	337. MELLENT
185. BRACTON.	236. MALET	287. ALGAR	338. GWADYR
186. HOO	237. BASSET	288. HAMLYN PLANTAGENET	339. FITZOSBORN
187. AUDEVILLE	238. MARSHALL, with FERRERS on a canton	289. WARREN	340. CRESPON
188. ST. LEGER	239. MARSHALL, ancient	290. MARSHALL	341. YVERY
189. ST. OMER	240. STRONGBOW	291. MARSHALL, ancient	342. GRANTESMENIL
190. MALMAYNES	241. CLARE	292. STRONGBOW	343. INGLETHORPE
191. ECHINGHAM	242. GIFFORD	293. CLARE	344. BURGH
192. ORMOND	243. McMURROUGH	294. GIFFORD	345. DE LA POLE
193. BUTLER	244. WATERTON	295. McMURROUGH	346. SACKVILLE
194. CARRICK	245. COURTENEY of Hacombe	296. MALTRAVERS	347. DE LA BECHE
195. HANCKFORD	246. AVRENCES	297. SANDFORD	348. BRADSTON
196. STAPLETON	247. SAP	298. BASSET	349. BURGH
197. SMYTH	248. REDVERS	299. GAY	350. TIPTOFT
198. COURTENEY of Tremere	249. REDVERS, ancient	300. NEVILL of Montacute	351. BADLESMERE
199. AVRANCHES	250. BELLOMONT	301. NEVILL, ancient	352. FITZBERNARD
200. SAP	251. MELLENT	302. BULMER	353. CLARE
201. REDVERS	252. CORNWALL	303. MIDDLEHAM	354. GIFFORD
202. REDVERS, ancient	253. DAWNAY	304. GLANVILLE	355. ST. HILLARY
203. BELLOMONT	254. CARMINOW	305. BREWER with POVEY, on a canton	356. CONSUL
204. MELLENT	255. GLYNN	306. MONTACUTE	357. FITZHAMON
205. CORNWALL	256. TYNTEN	307. GRANDSON	358. MARSHALL
206. DEVIOCK	257. BLOYOWE	308. TREGOZ	359. MARSHALL, ancient
207. LUCOMBE	258. TREVISA	309. EWYAS	360. STRONGBOW
208. KAYLL	259. RESKIMER	310. MONTHERMER	361. CLARE
209. STONARD	260. PULIN	311. FRAUNCEYS	362. GIFFORD
210. EUTHY	261. DEVIOCK	312. HOLLAND	363. McMURROUGH
211. TRENGOVE	262. TREWORTHIAN	313. ZOUCHE	464. LACY, Earl of Lincoln
212. COURTENEY of Tretherfe	263. HELIGAN	314. ROHAN	365. LACY, ancient
213. AVRENCES	264. CARMINOW	315. BRITTANY	566. FITZ EUSTACE
214. SAP	265. BODRUGAN	316. BEAUMES	367. FITZ NIGEL
215. REDVERS	266. DENSELL	317. QUINCY	368. LIZORES
216. REDVERS, ancient	267. TRENOUTH	318. BELLOMONT	369. QUINCY
217. BELLOMONT	268. SKEWES	319. MELLENT	370. BELLOMONT
218. MELLENT	269. GORGES	320. GWADYR	371. MELLENT
219. CORNWALL	270. RUSSELL	321. FITZOSBORN	372. GWADYR
220. WOTTON.	271. NEWMARSH	322. CRESPON	373. FITZOSBORN
221. TRETHURFE	272. GORGES	323. YVERY	374. CRESPON
222. ST. AUBYN	273. OLDBALL	324. GRANTESMENIL	375. YVERY

376. GRANTESMENIL	389. GWYRDE	402. BELLOMONT	415. WAKE
377. KEVELIOC	390. EDWYN AP TEICHWALCHE	403. MELLENT	416. GAUNT
378. GERNONS	391. JUYR DDY	404. GWADYR	417. BREWER
379. MESCHINES	392. BROCKWELL YSCEDROK	405. FITZOSBORNE	418. STUTEVILLE
380. LUPUS	393. MEREDITH	406. CRESPON	419. QUINCY
381. ALGAR	394. RODERICK MAWR	407. YVERY	420. BELLOMONT
382. FITZ MAURICE	395. CADWALLADER	408. GRANTESMENIL	421. MELLENT
383. LONGSPEE	396. HOLLAND	409. GALLOWAY	422. GWADYR
384. EVEREUX	397. ZOUCHE	410. MORVILLE	423. FITZOSBORN
385. RIDLESFORD	398. ROHAN	411. LONGESPEE	424. CRESPON
386. CHARLETON	399. BRITTANY	412. EVEREUX	425. YVERY
387. OWEN AP GRIFFITH	400. BEAUMES	413. RIDLESFORD	426. GRANTESMENIL
388. GWAYTHVOID	401. QUINCY	414. PLANTAGENET of Woodstock	

N.B.—Of the above 423 quarterings, forming this achievement,
 277 were brought in by POYNTZ, and the remainder
 by BROWNE.

DESCENT OF THE QUARTERINGS OF POYNTZ, INCLUDING THOSE OF BROWNE, VISCOUNT MONTAGU.

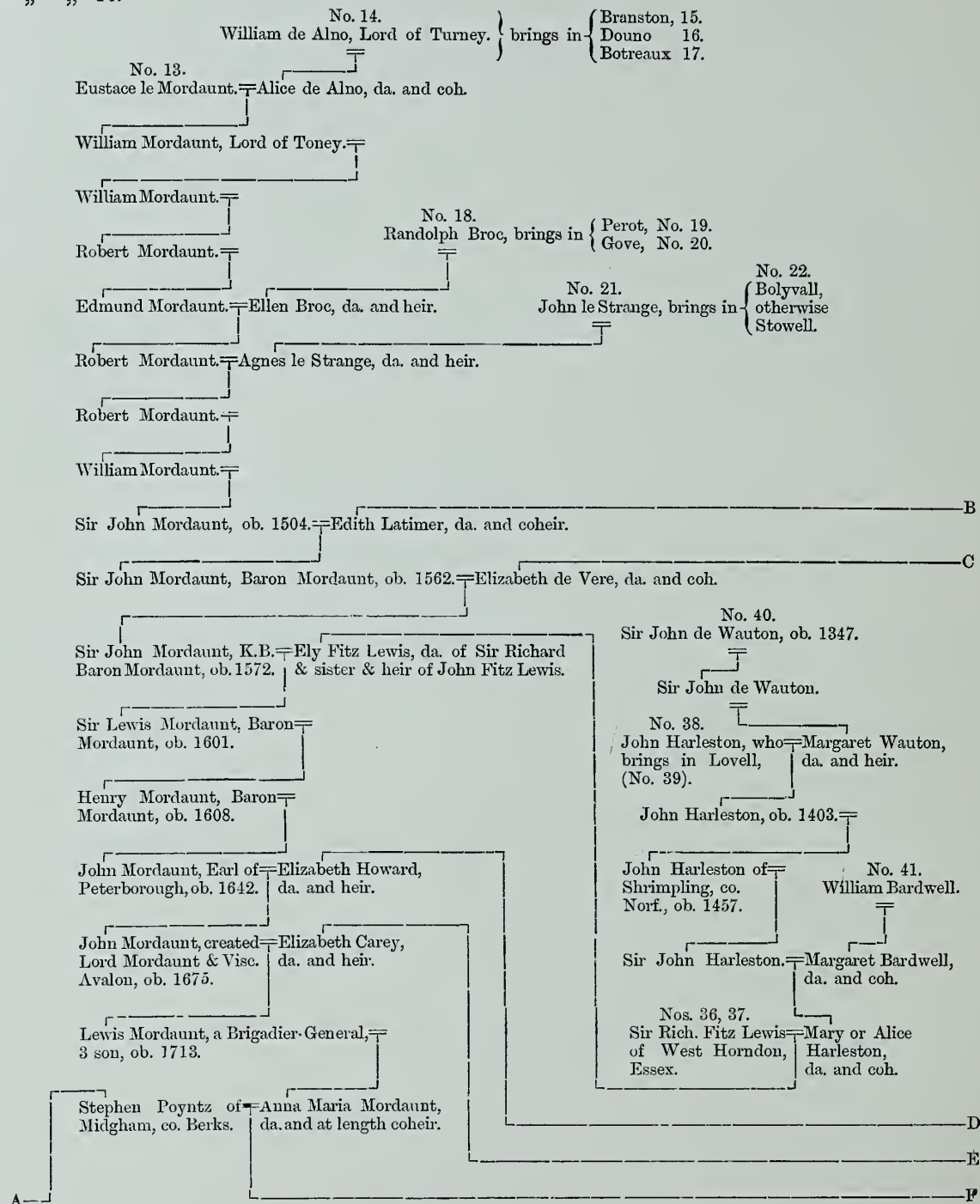
Vinc. 80, 57.
CC. 266.
B. Bk. 670
I. 16, 110.



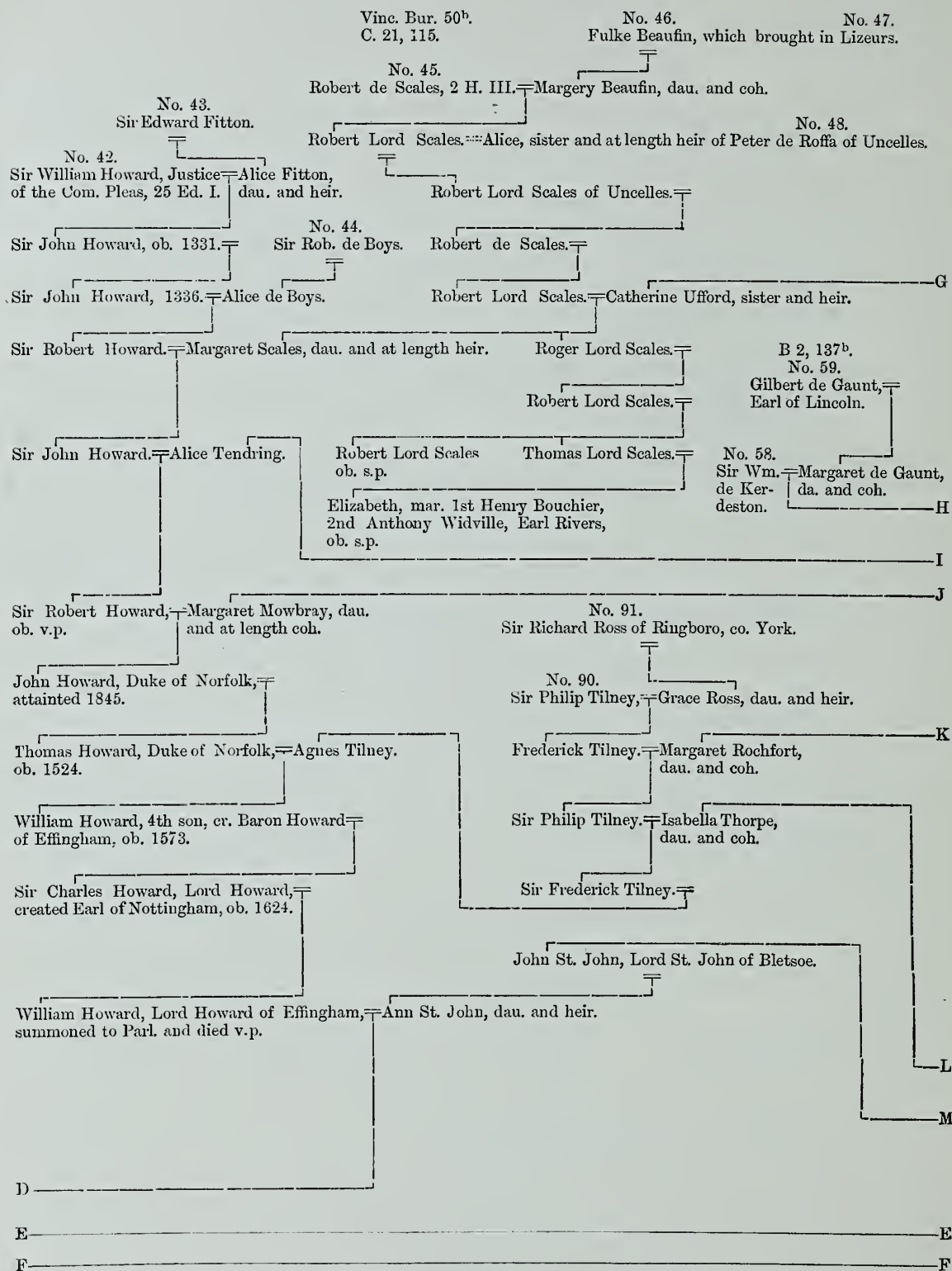
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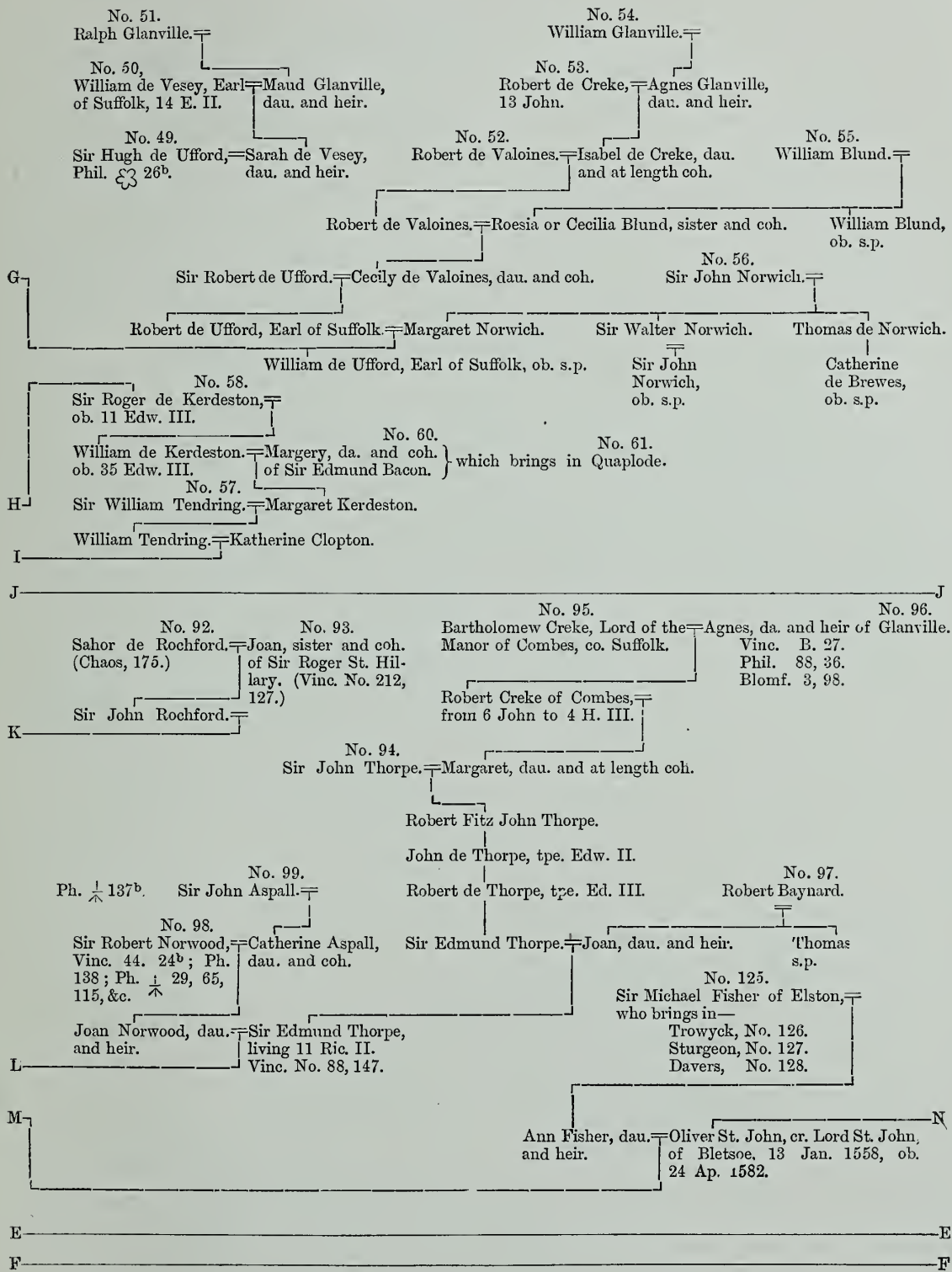
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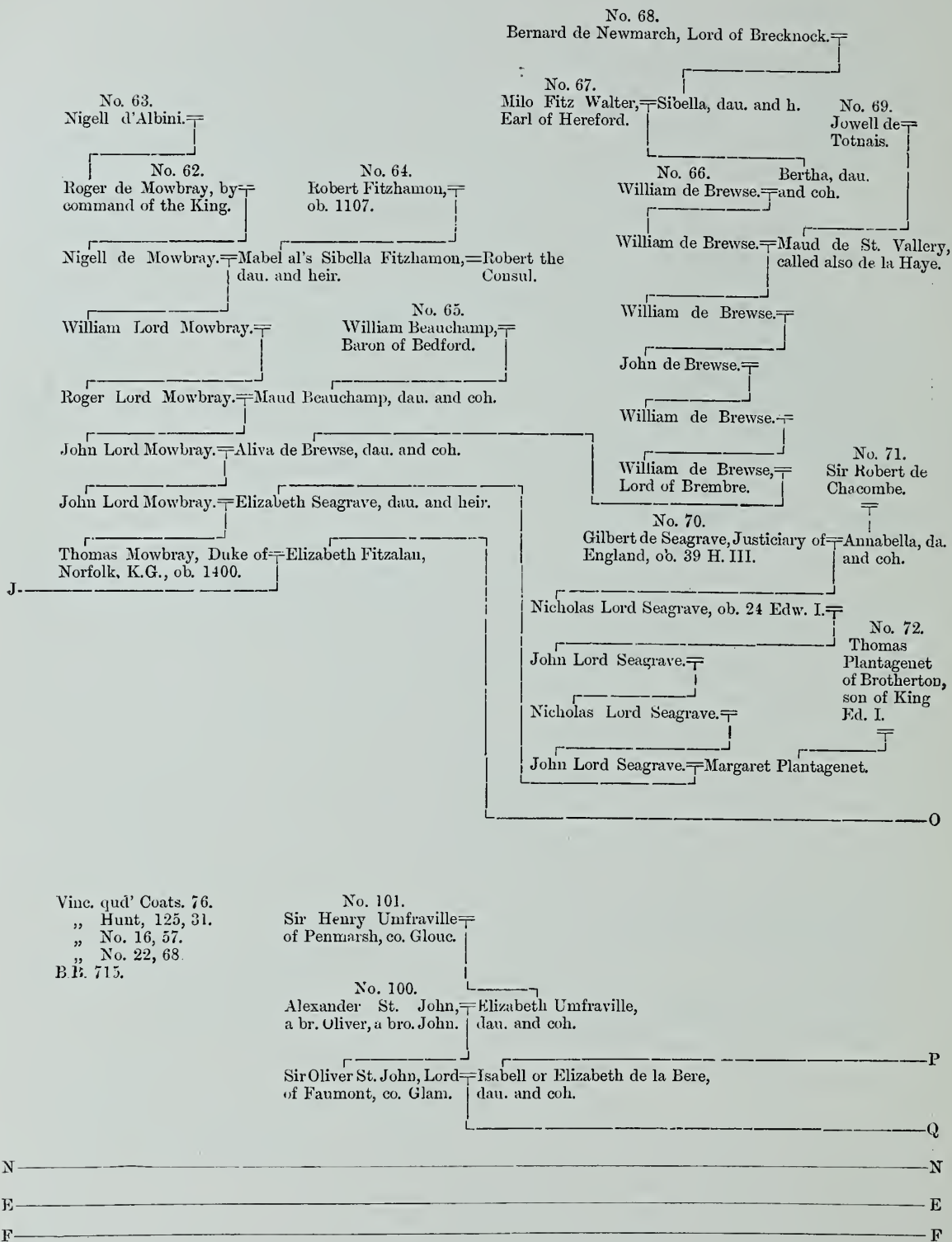
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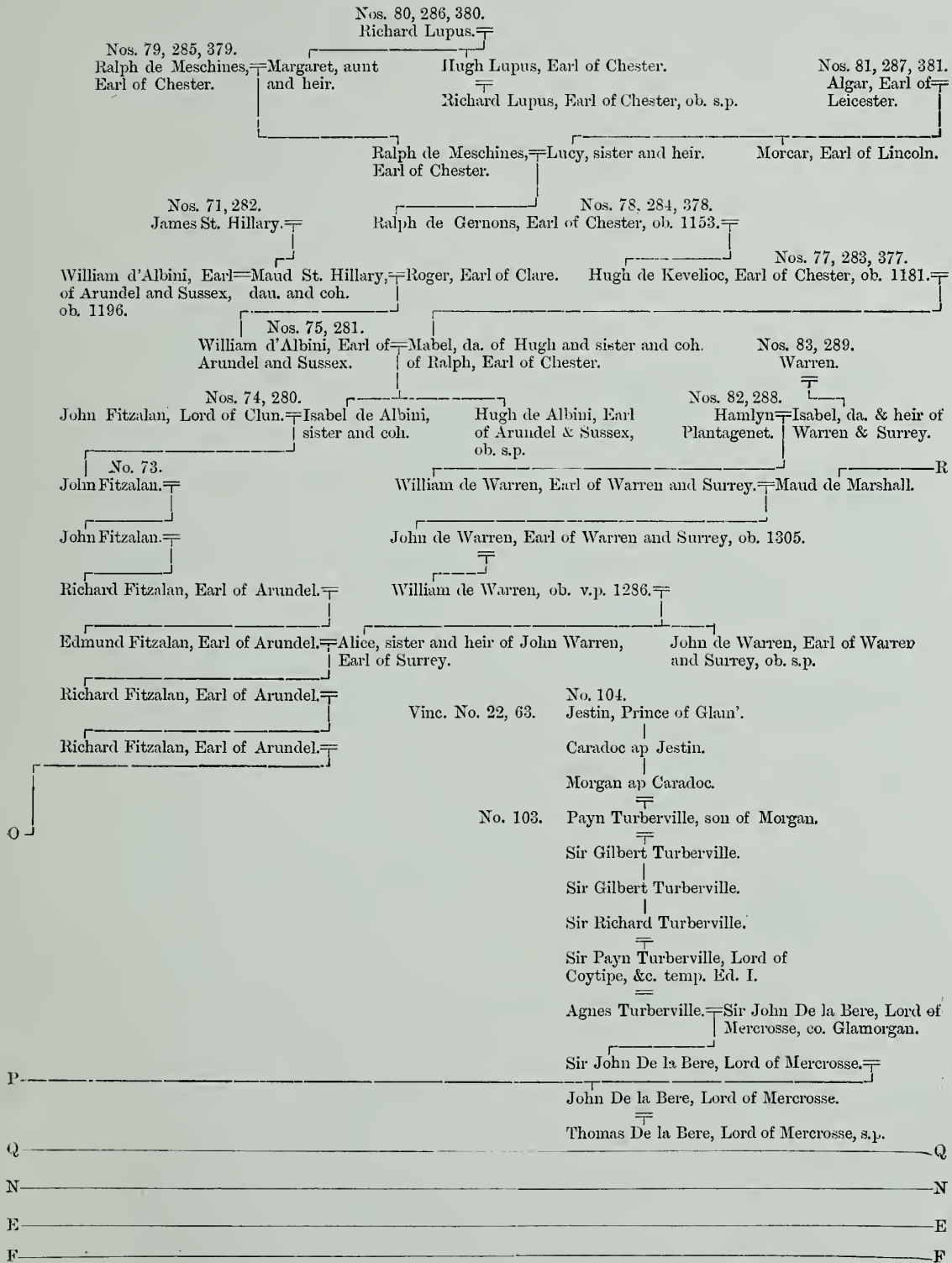


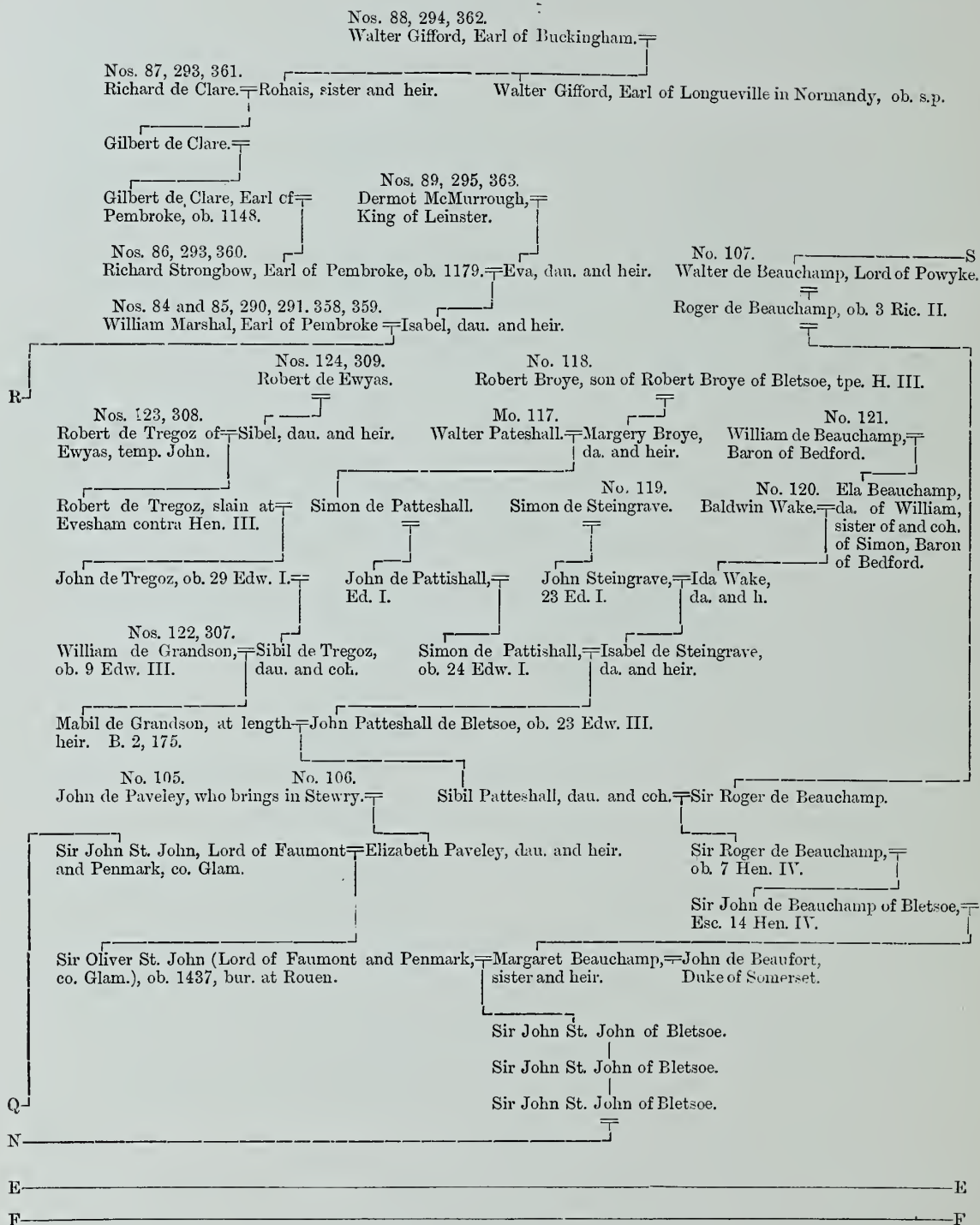
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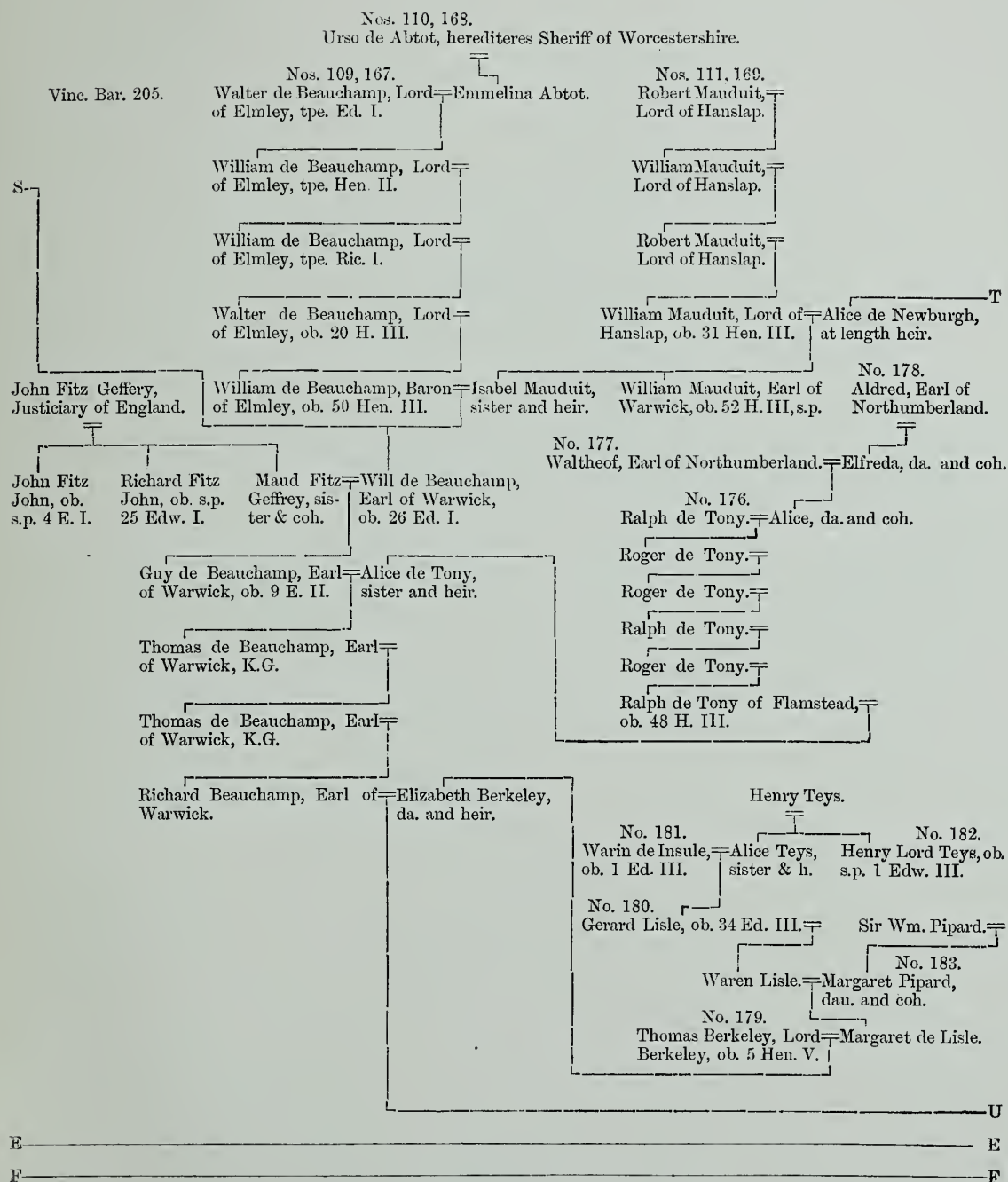


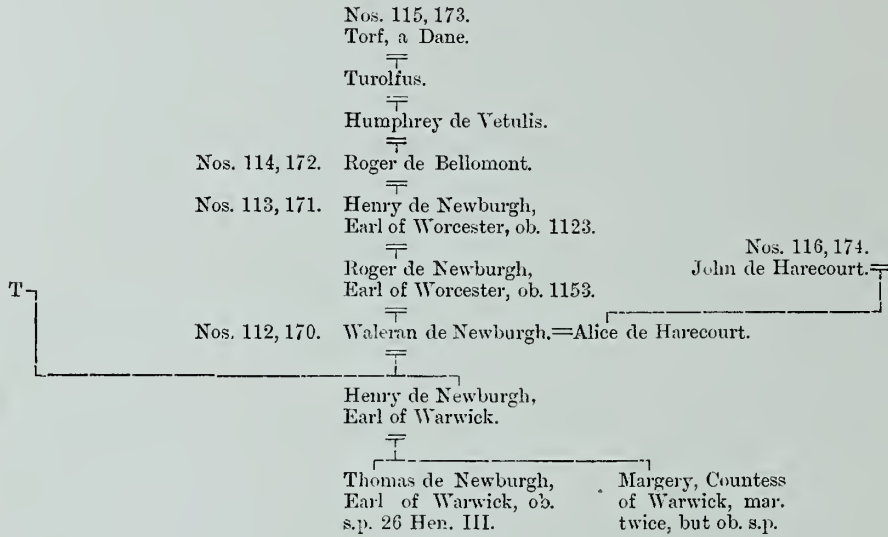




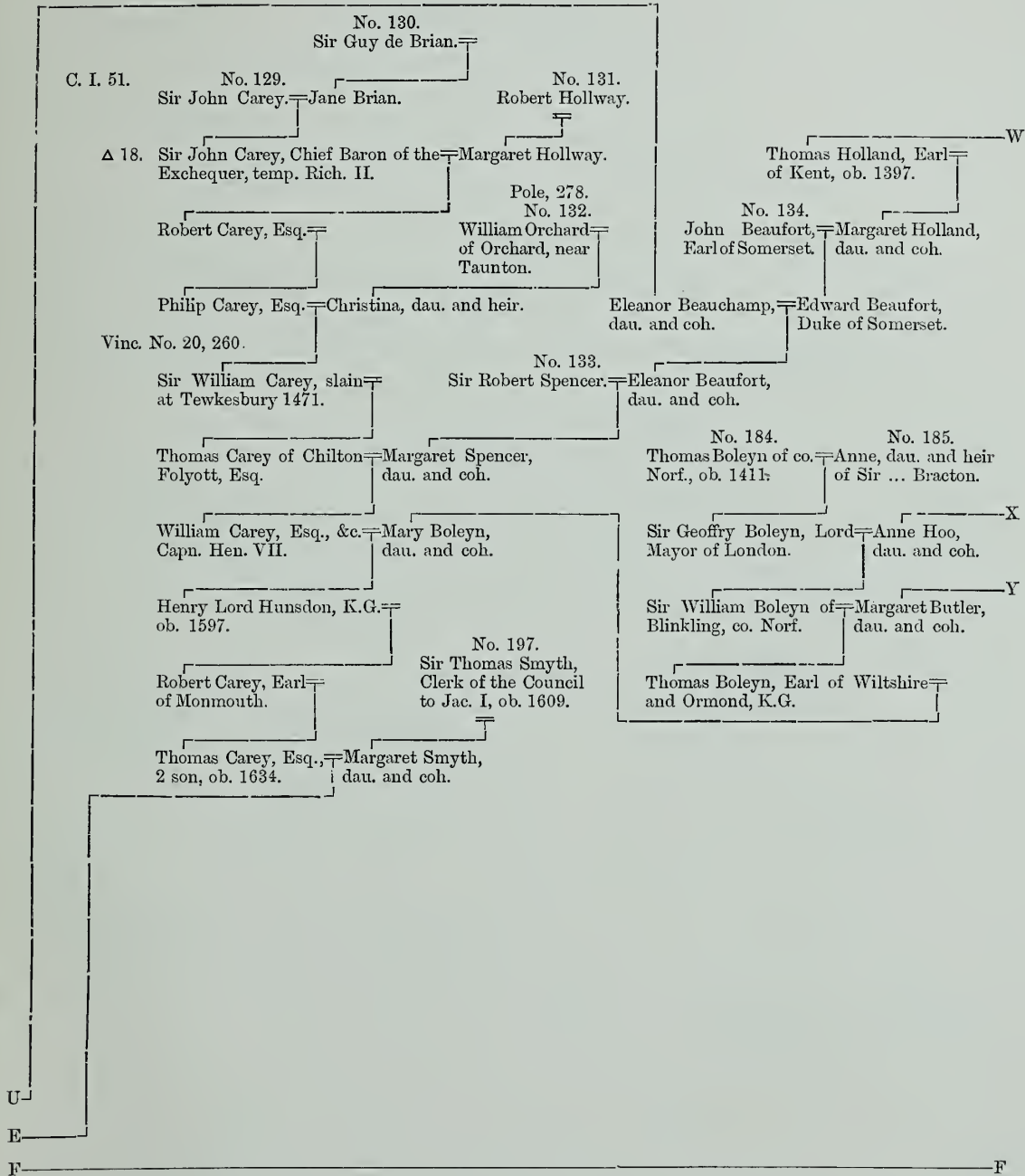


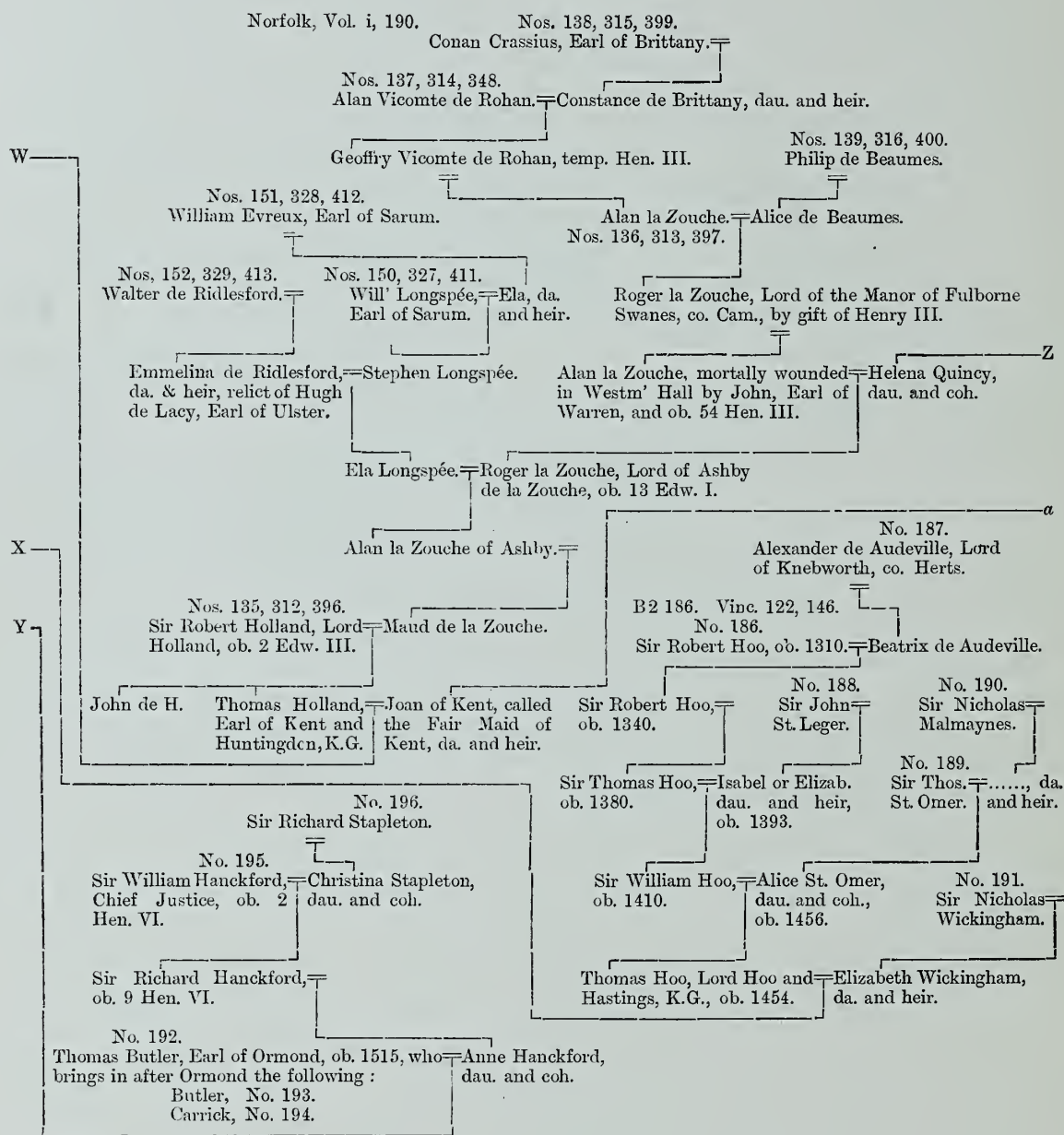


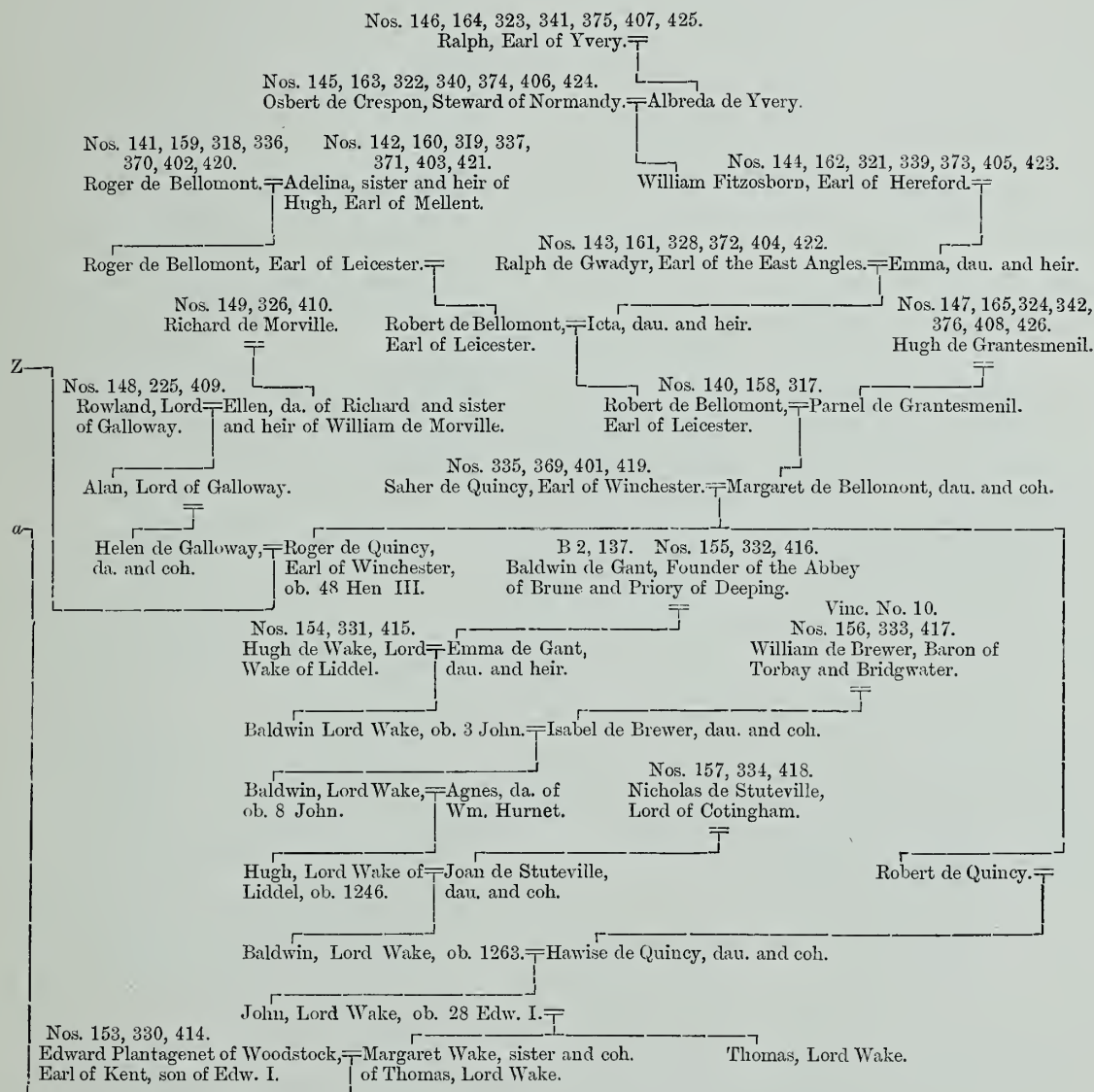


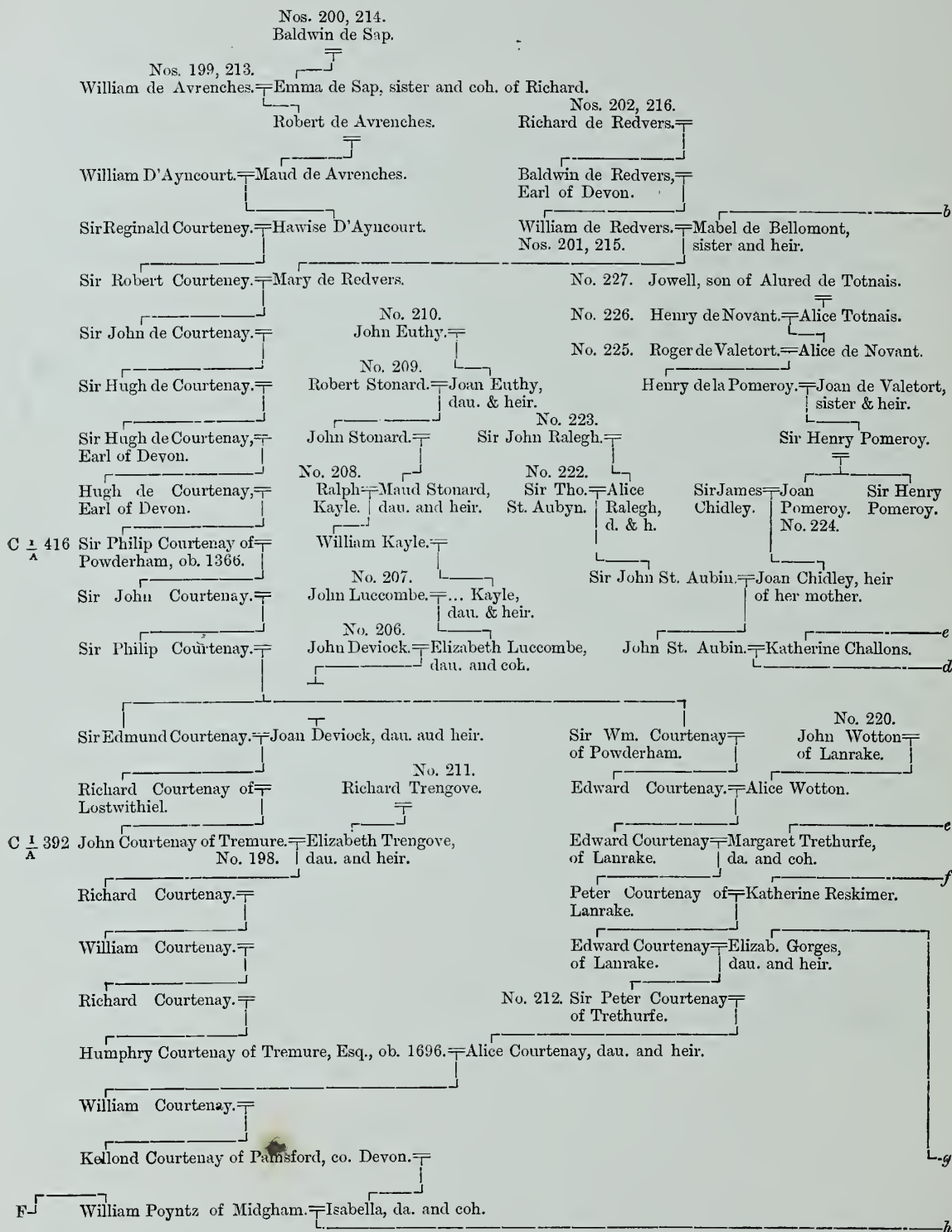


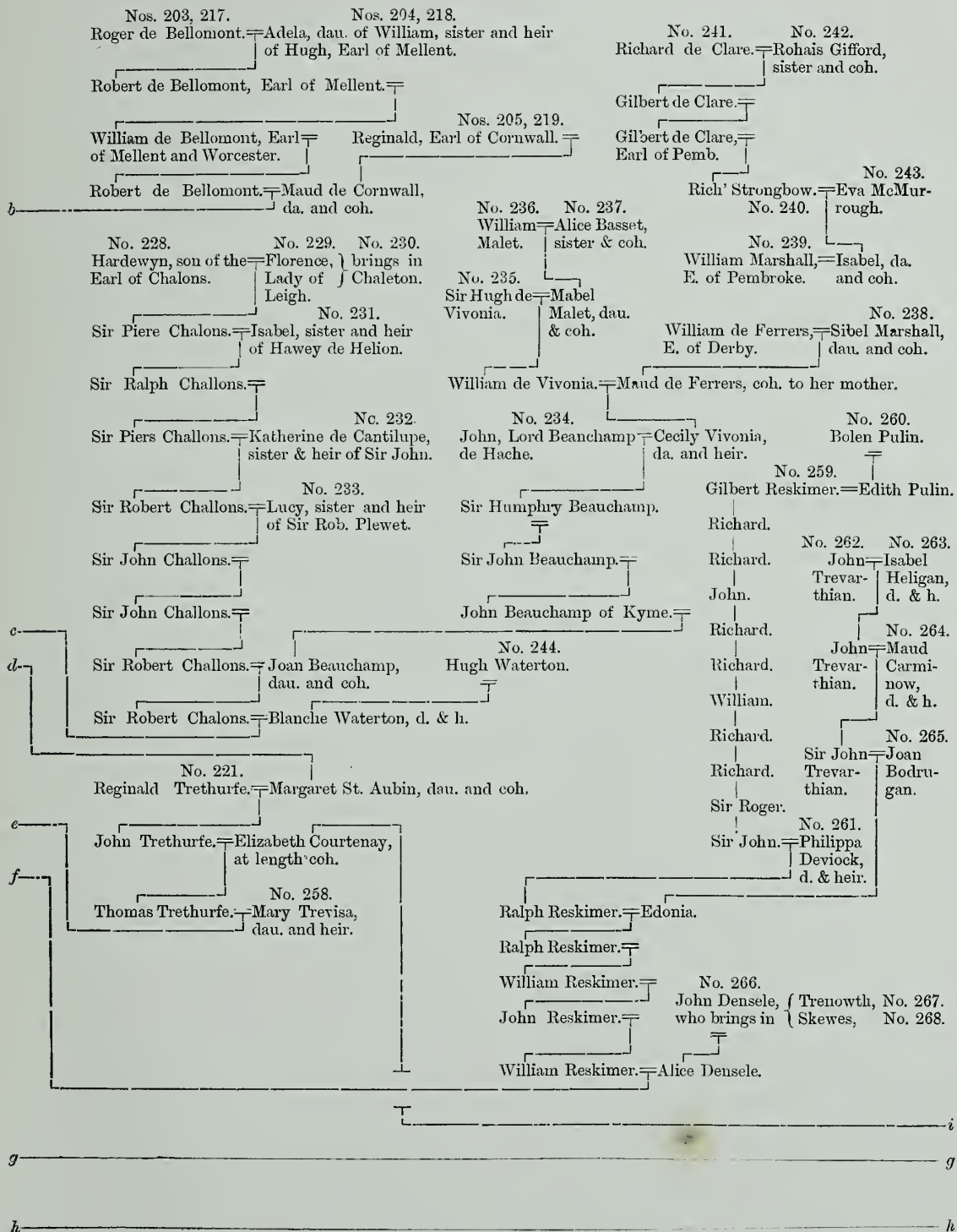
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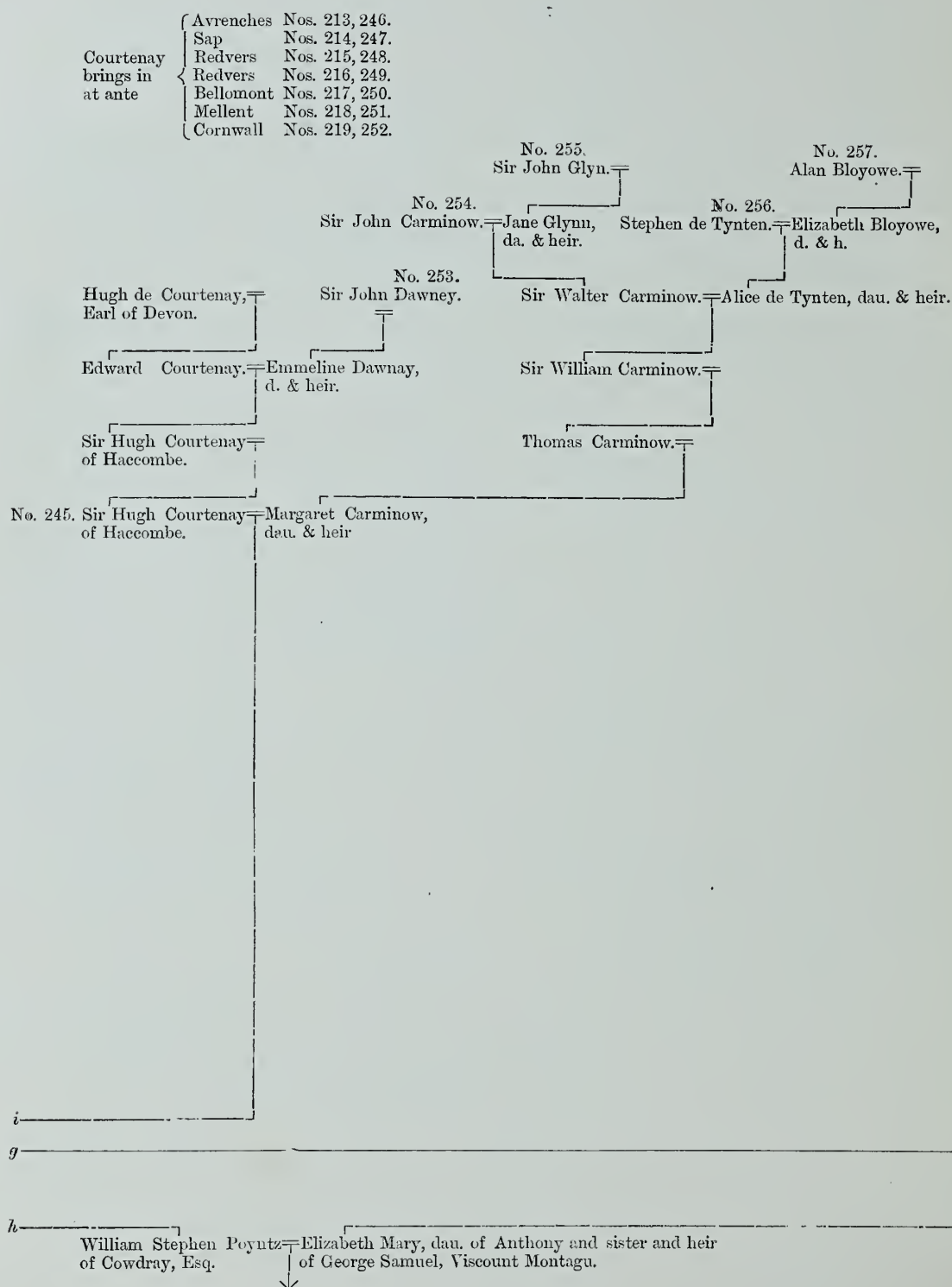


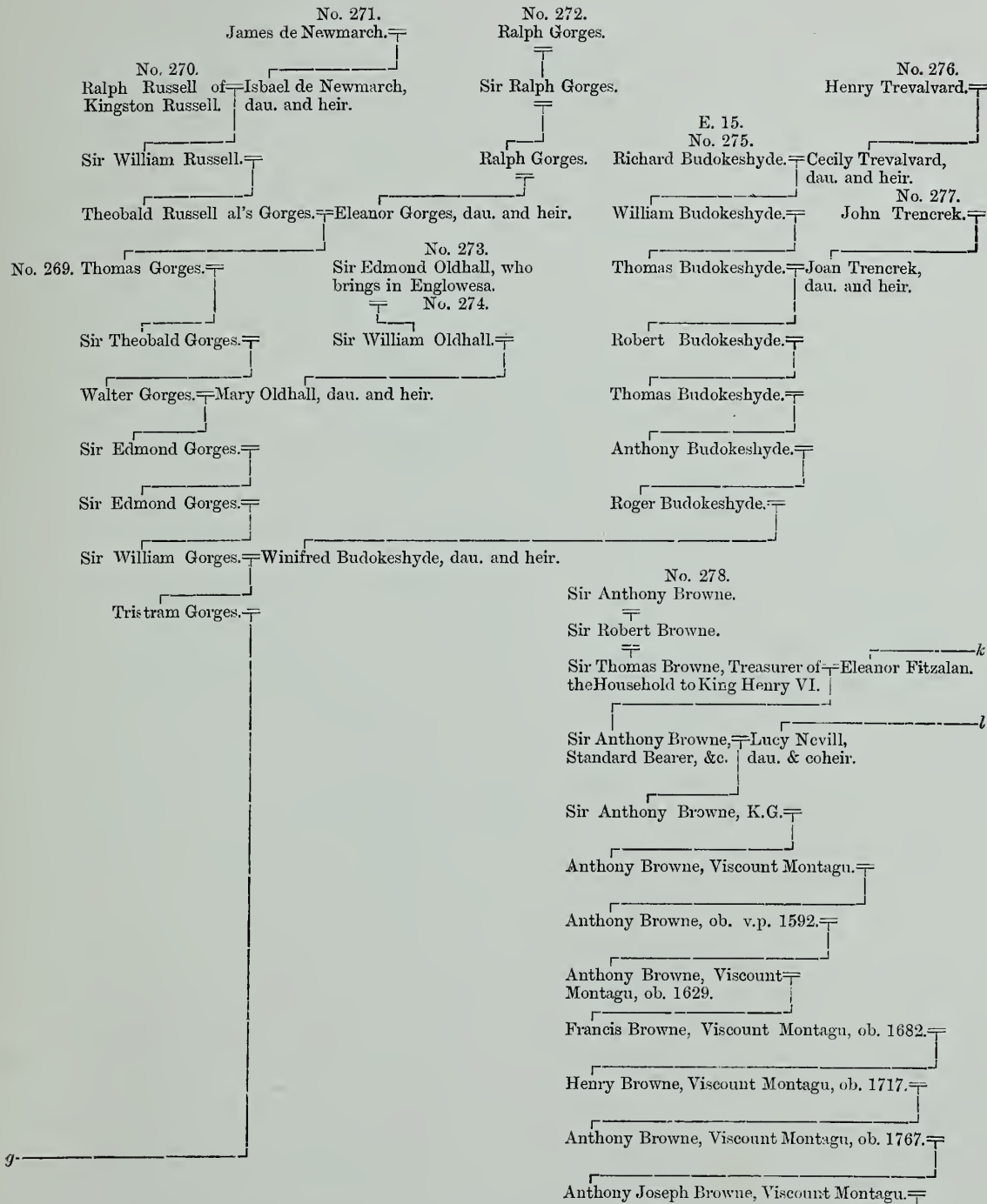


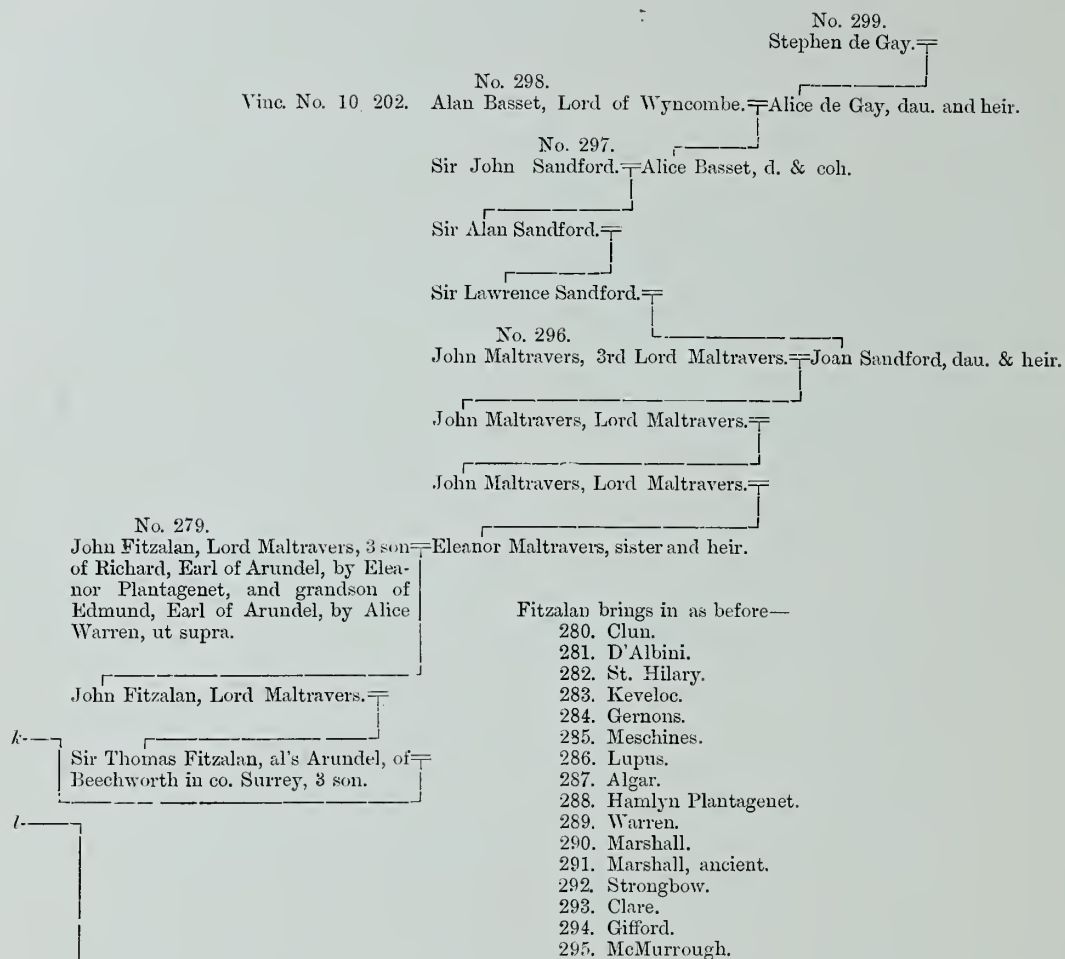


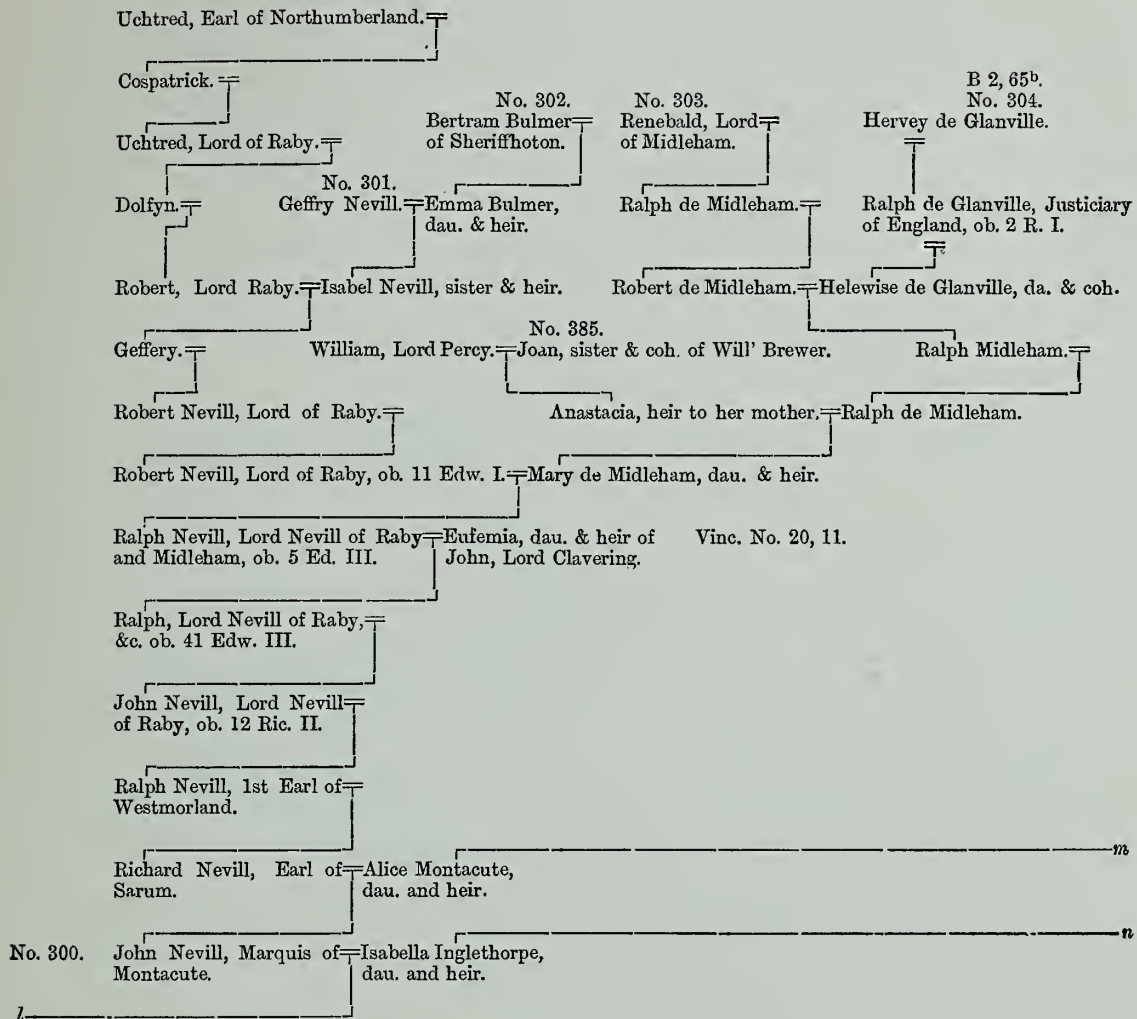


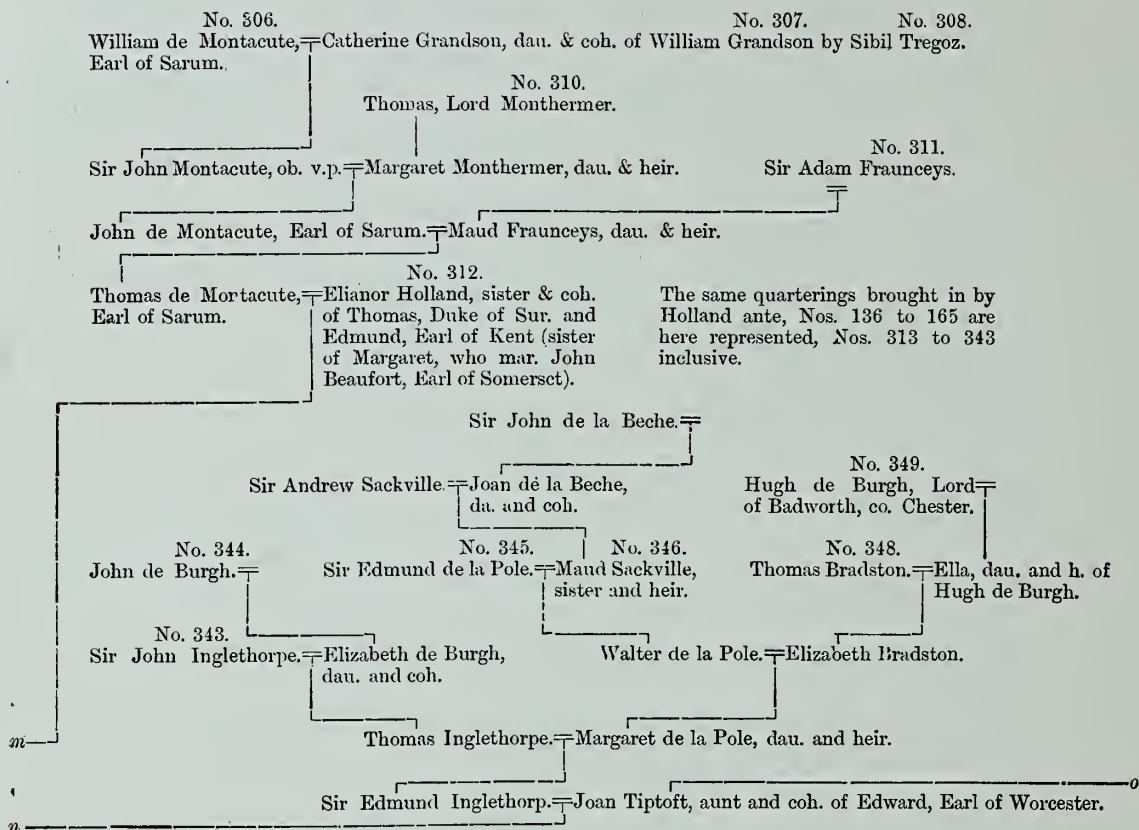


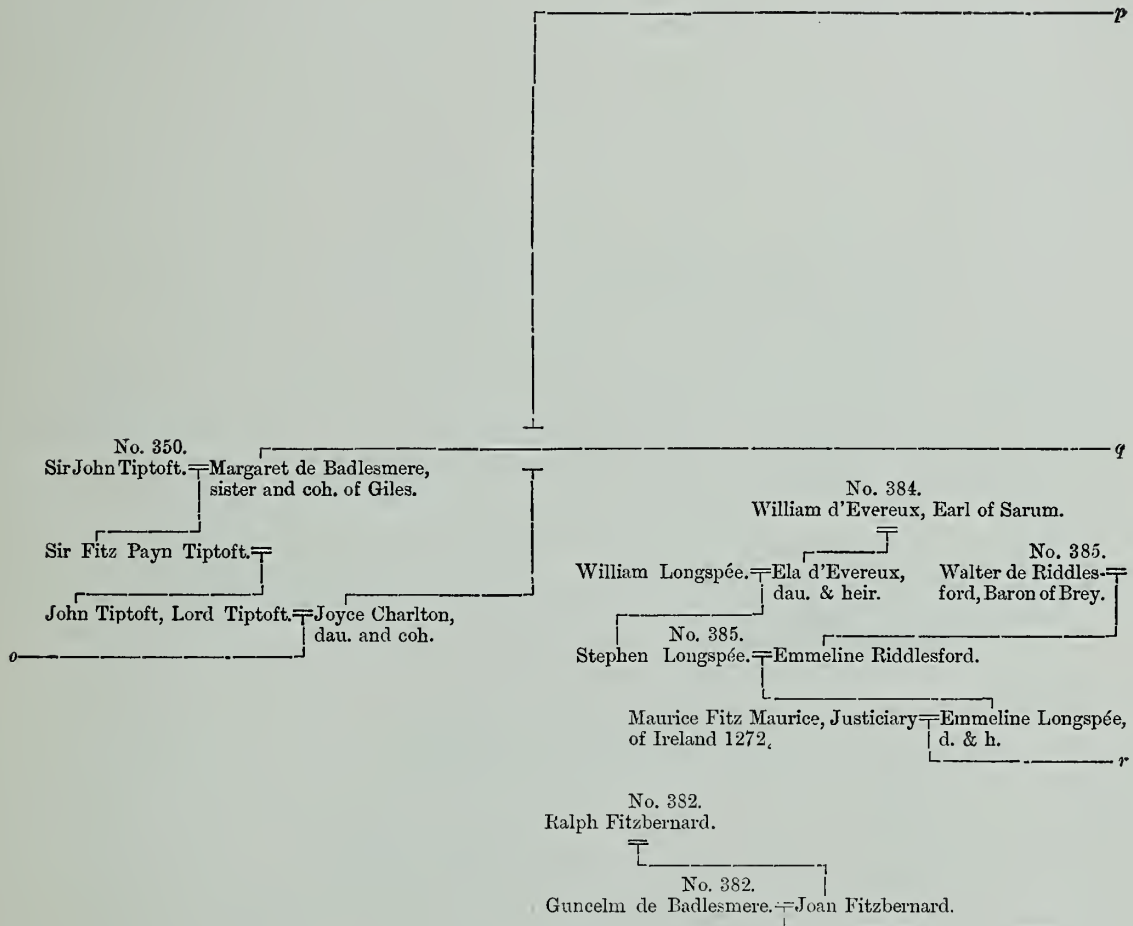


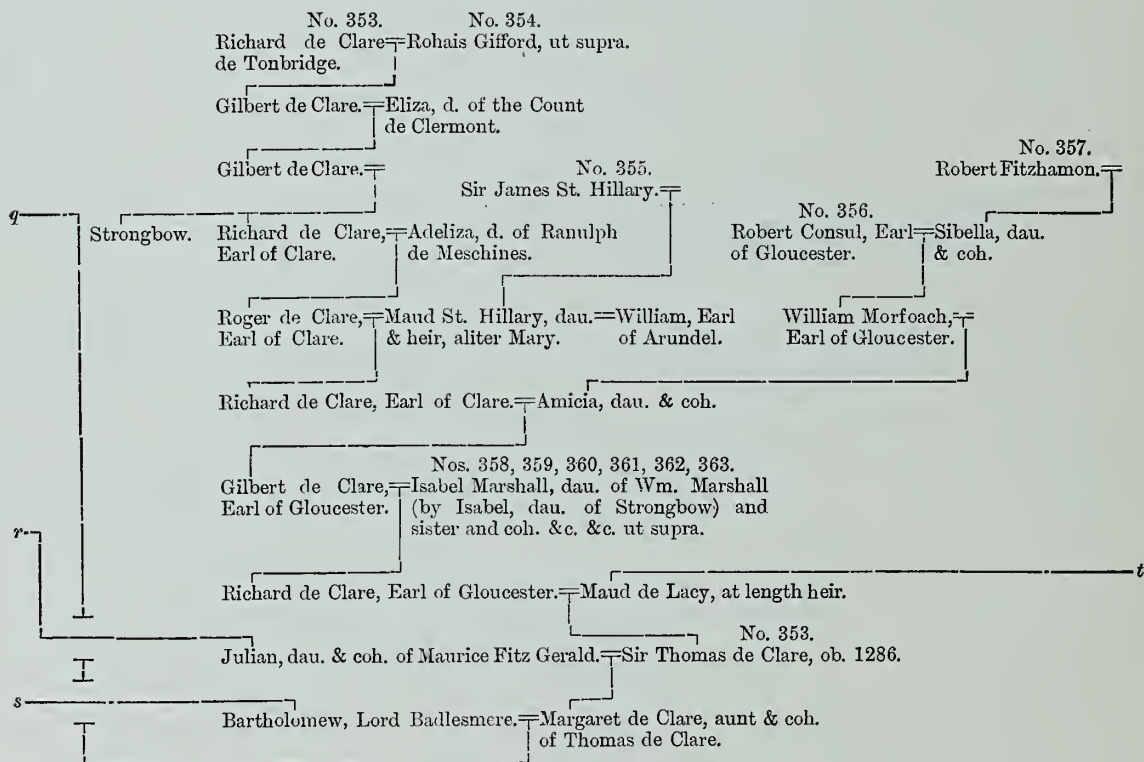


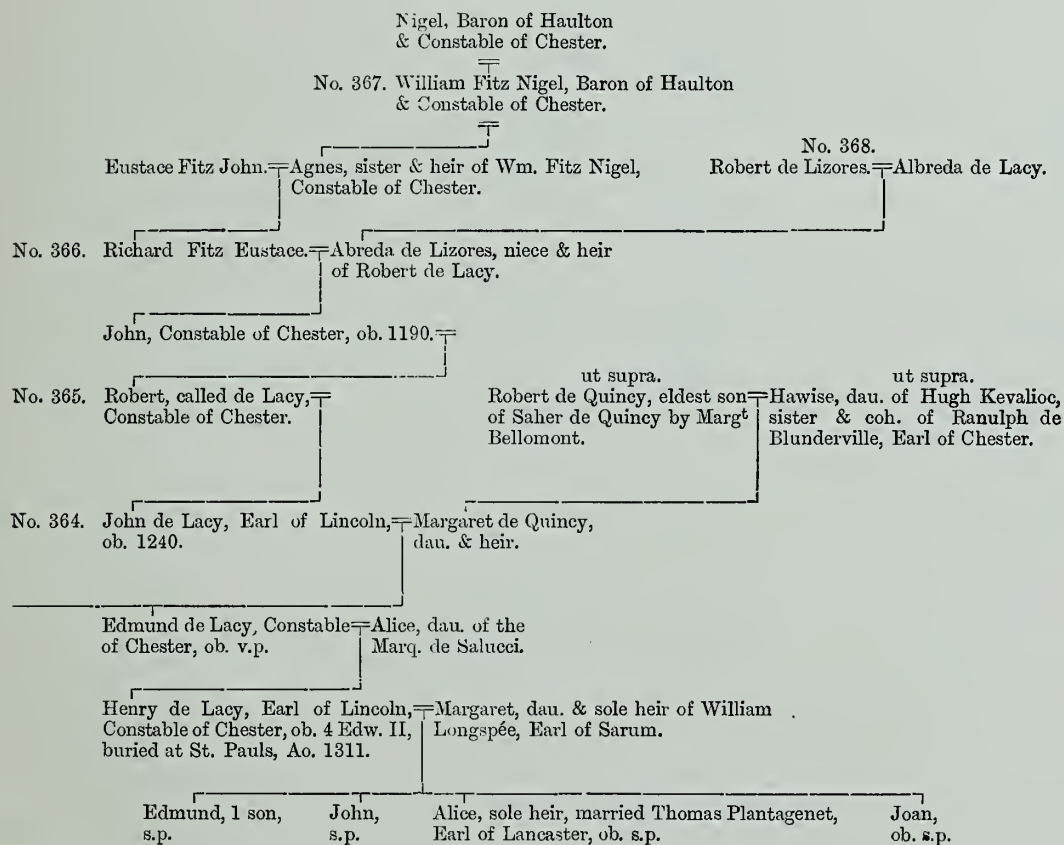


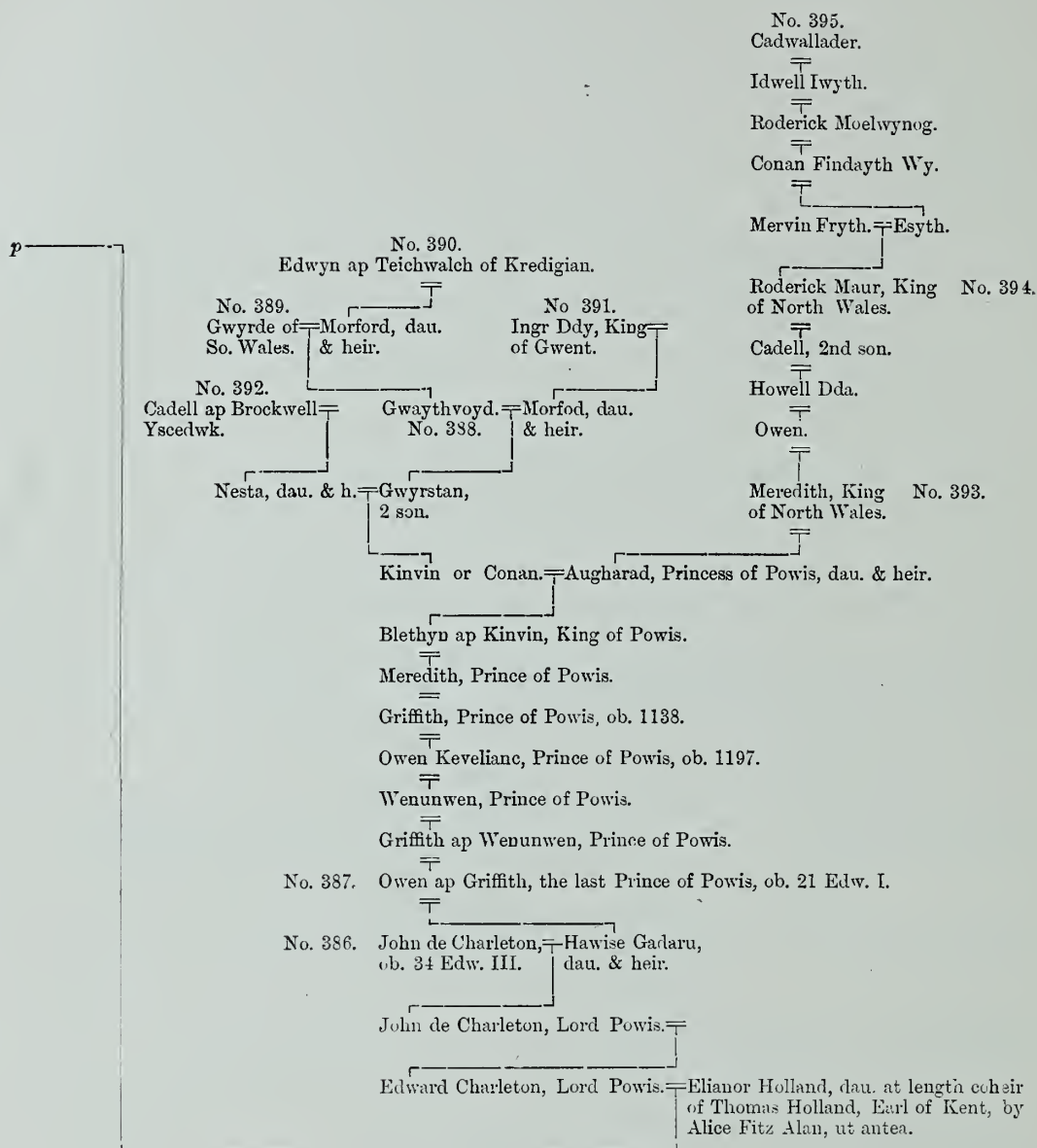












POYNTZ OF DEVON AND SOMERSET.

CHAPTER X.

Besides the several branches of the ancient family of Poyntz whose descent from Simon Fitz Pons we have, with more or less certainty, been able to establish, there are yet those whose lineage we have not as yet been successful in tracing, and, moreover, there are many individuals, some of them of considerable eminence, whom we have not been able to affiliate. With these classes we will now attempt to deal.

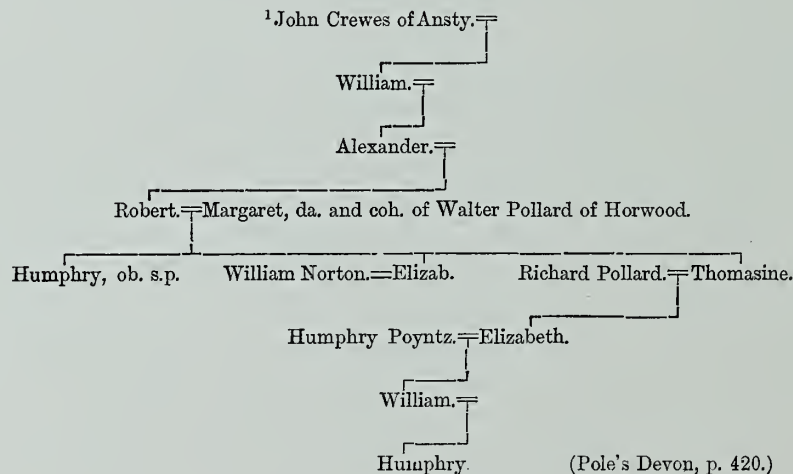
The name of Poyntz was formerly much extended over North Devon. It is found sometimes at an early date in the Parish Registers of Alwington, Arlington, Barnstaple, Bittadon, Braunton, Buckland-Brewer, Marwood, Yarnscombe, and others. And, moreover, we find members of the family in the county before Parish Registers were established, and this wide dispersion would indicate an early settlement. Drogo Fitz Pons held as many as seventy-three manors in Devonshire under Geoffry, Bishop of Coutances, but Geoffry died s.p., and we do not mean to imply that the settlement of the Poyntzs in Devon was at so early a period.

The earliest note which we have of the name in Devon is from the Chancery Proceedings of the time of Henry VII and Henry VIII, date not stated. It is a petition in Chancery by Elizabeth Poyntz and Wilmot Poyntz, and is addressed to the Right Reverend the Archbishop of Canterbury and Chancellor of England, and it must therefore have occurred during the period that Archbishop Warham was Lord Chancellor, viz., between January, 1503-4 and 1516. The petitioners recite that their father, William Poyntz, was seized of the manors of Anstey and Rackenford, and of lands and tenements in the said parishes, and being so seized died seized, leaving his said two daughters, Elizabeth and Wilmot, his heirs, and they complain that divers evidences, writings, &c., shewing their title to the aforesaid manors and lands are in the possession of Nicholas

Poyntz, and that though they had repeatedly demanded the delivery of them they had been refused, and the petitioners say that because they are not able to describe the said documents, or the bags or boxes in which they are contained, they have no action at common law, and they therefore pray a subpoena against Nicholas Poyntz to appear and answer the premises. This petition was granted, but we know not what was the result.

Pole, under the Manor of East Anstey states that it descended from Alexander Crewes 27 Henry III (1242) to Robert Crewes, "which had issue Humphry, Elizabeth, wife of William Norton, and Thomasine, wife of Richard Pollard by Margaret daughter and coheir of Walter Pollard of Horwood. Humphry Crewes of Anstey, died without issue and this land came unto his two sisters from whom Norton Prou of Chagford and Beare of Hunsham are descended. Thomasine by Richard Pollard, had issue Elizabeth, wife of Humphry Poyntz, father of William, father of Humphry."¹

We have seen (ante pp. 37, 58, and 95), that Humphry Poyntz, second son of Sir Nicholas Poyntz of Iron Acton by his first wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edward Mill of Harescombe, married a daughter of Pollard, whose parentage we were unable to state at the time we were writing. This Humphry died in 1487, and in the inquisition taken thereupon it was found that Nicholas Poyntz was his son and heir, and was aged 21 years and more. No other issue from him is shewn, and it is not unlikely that he might have had another son named William, father of the petitioners, and in the event of the possible death s.p. of their brother Humphry, they would become the heirs of their father William, and Nicholas their uncle would probably be the defendant in the suit.



Pole also mentions (p. 246) that Elena daughter of Geoffrey Ponte at an early date married William Prous of Chagford, but whether this Geoffrey was of the family of Poyntz we cannot at present undertake to affirm with certainty. It appears, however, that Sir Fulke Prideaux of Adestow and Theuborough, co. Devon, who died 15th January, 1520-1, married, as his second wife, Katherine, the daughter of Sir Humphry Poyntz of Langley, in the same county, issue of which marriage in the direct male line still exists.

Humphry is not a very familiar name in the Poyntz family. It occurs again in 1609. Hugh Poyntz, of Newton St. Petrock, Devon, made his will (nuncupative) in 1586, in which he appointed his brother Nicholas executor and residuary legatee. This will was proved 20th April, 1593.¹ Nicholas was of Buckland Brewer, in the same county. His will, in which he describes himself as Gent., is dated 2nd August, 1609.² He names his sons William, John, and James, his daughter Mary, and his daughter Grace Hogge, and makes his son Humphry executor and residuary legatee. Humphry Andrew of Thornbury, and Richard Hogge, of Newton St. Petrock, Overseers.³

The earliest person of the name in the county of Devon of whom we have any distinct and definite knowledge is Richard Poyntz *alias* Poyntz of Mettcombe, in the parish of Marwood. He made his will there on the 24th January, 1571-2, in which he directs that his body shall be buried in Marwood church. He bequeaths to Robert Poyntz, eldest son of Edward Poyntz my eldest son, "my greatest and best brazen potte." Gives to John Poyntz, his son, his oxen, yokes, bows, &c., and to Richard Poyntz the younger, David Poyntz, and Margaret Poyntz, his children, all his lands, &c., in Northcote, Colemore, and Bittadon, co. Devon. Makes Edward Poyntz, his eldest son and heir apparent, and Julian

¹ Barum Register, Probate Court, Exeter.

² Ibid.

³ *Newton St. Petrock Par. Registers*—

1596. Richard Hogge and Grace Poyntz married 7th November.

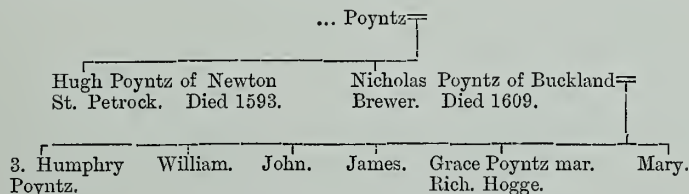
1623. Roger Hogge and Mary Poyntz married 14th June.

St. Cuthbert's, Wells, Par. Registers—

1610. Humphry Poyntz and Mary Heath married by licence 21 May.

Monkleigh Par. Registers—

1659-60. Susanna, dau. of Humphry Poyntz, born 3rd March.



We conceive all these to be related.

Poynes, his wife, executors. A Nicholas Poynes is one of the witnesses to the execution of the will.¹

Edward Poyntz the eldest son and heir settled at Dunster, co. Somerset, to whom we shall return presently. To John Poyntz his second son, Richard Poynes, in addition to the oxen and their equipments appears to have transferred his estate in Mettcombe, which he held on lease for the term of 99 years determinable upon the death of the said John, from one John Bowyer, Gent., of Beare in Cannington, co. Som. John Bowyer in his Will, dated 15th Dec., 1598, describes it as "my Manor, or grange of meadow in the parish of Marwood, wherein John Poynes, Gent., now dwelleth."²

On 11th Oct., 1624, John Poyntz, as he now writes his name, presented a petition in Chancery respecting this estate. He represents that he was possessed of the tenement above described on the tenure stated, which estate was worth to be sold £350, the immediate reversion being in one John Bowyer, Gent., and his heirs, and he alleges that one Launcelot St. Albin of Allfoxton, Som. Esq., lately deceased, pretending to be the true patron of the Rectory of Parracombe, Devon, then void by the death of John Bryan, clerk, in consideration of a marriage between the said John Bowyer and Elizabeth, daughter of the said Launcelot, did grant to the said John Bowyer the presentation to the said benefice then void, and by another deed did also grant to him the presentation next following, in lieu of £300, which the said Launcelot had promised him as his daughter's marriage portion. Afterwards an arrangement was made between the said John Bowyer and John Poyntz, who represented that he had then some friend whom he wished to advance to some spiritual promotion, under which the said John Poyntz agreed to exchange his estate in Mettcombe for the Rectory and advowson of Parracombe. John Poyntz represents that it appeared by the deed by which he surrendered Mettcombe that he should receive £313, but not a penny had been paid, and that in consideration he had nothing but the promise of the said John Bowyer lawfully to convey the said Rectory and advowson, which surrender would not content the said John Bowyer without a Bond of £600. John Poyntz further alleges that Launcelot St. Albin is lately dead and John Bowyer, knowing that the grants were defective in law, the benefice being at the time vacant, and Launcelott having only an estate for life in the patronage, does now endeavour to "Out" the said John Poyntz from the tenement of Mettcombe for which he has received no consideration from the said John Bowyer; and he prays that John Bowyer may be compelled to reassure him in the right of Mettcombe.

¹ Prob. 11th April, 1572. Archd. Barum. Exon.

² P.C.C. Prob. 25th Jan. 1598-9, (68 Kidd).

John Bowyer in answer said that John Poyntz did hold the tenement of Mettcombe, but that he had allowed it to fall into such a state of ruin and decay that he could not make £20 a year thereof, that John Poyntz pretended to St. Albin, that he himself would enter into the ministry and get himself inducted to the aforesaid benefice, but not succeeding in that desire he laboured with John Bowyer to obtain both the presentation to the then vacancy and on the next avoidance, and that he, John Bowyer, had treated with Launcelot St. Albin who, without some good consideration, would not part with the said advowson, and that he the said John Bowyer had released to him the said £300.¹ What was the decree in the case we know not, and it is not material to our enquiry.

This John Poyntz, we conceive, must have been the same who at Braunton on 12th July, 1573, married Margaret Wyott, probably the daughter of Philip, or of Walter Wyott, of that parish.² With our present information we cannot say which. He made his will 2nd December, 1615, in which he names his wife Margaret, and gives her £20 a year for forty years and lands called Norcote and Colemore in the parish of Bittadon. Names his son, John Poyntz, his daughter, Mary Morgan, and her daughter, Elizabeth. Also his daughter, Agnes Berry, his son Edward Poyntz, and grandson, Edward Poyntz. His brother, Richard Poyntz, to have his maintenance for life. Names his grandson, Thomas Berry, and his sister, Margaret Colliscott. Appoints his son, Edward Poyntz, executor, and his cousins, Henry Wyott, and John Symons, overseers.³ His relict, who describes herself as Margaret Poyntz, of Metcott, made her will 26th December, 1619. Therein she gives to John Morgan £6 13s. 4d. (10 marks) and the same to William Berry, which John and William we conclude were the husbands of her two daughters, respectively, the same sum to Elizabeth Berry at the age of 21, and to Elizabeth, Johan, and Margaret, children of Edward Poyntz, and the same to Susan Morgan, at 21. Makes her son Edward Poyntz, executor. By a codicil dated 7th May, 1623, she further gives all her clothes to her two daughters Mary and Agnes. Henry Wyott witness.⁴

Edward Poyntz, son of John Poyntz was of Barnstaple and Bittadon and would appear to have resided sometimes at one place and sometimes at the other. In 1637 he was sent for as a defaulter at the last muster for the county

¹ Chancery Bills and Answers, *Poyntz v. Bowyer*, Bundle 23, No. 48.

² *Braunton Par. Registers*.

1555. Margaret, daughter of Philip Wyott, was baptized 5th September.

1557. Margaret, dau. of Walter Wyott, was baptized 19th May.

1573. John Poyntz and Margaret Wyott were married 12th July.

³ Prob. 5th March, 1615-6. Archd. Barum.

⁴ Prob. 7th May, 1623, Archd. Barum.

of Devon, in respect to his assessment for the parish of Bittadon, but Francis, Earl of Bedford, wrote to Thomas Meautys (the Muster Master), on 13th March, 1637-8, stating that he had received a certificate from Colonel Pollard, stating that Poyntz had the arms he was assessed at, but the substitute of the soldier who was to serve with them made default, and further that Poyntz had always been ready in that kind, and therefore the Earl conceives he may be discharged.¹ He was twice married, though we have failed to discover who was his first wife. By her he had two sons, Edward and John, and three daughters. He married secondly at Barnstaple, on 26th August, 1658, when he was described as widower, Eleanor, relict of Langdon, of Heanton Punchardon, co. Devon, by whom he had three daughters. He made his will on 20th August, 1667, by which he devised his land at Bittadon to his son Edward Poyntz for the term of his life, with remainder, after his death, to John, eldest son of the said Edward and his heirs. Names Mary, daughter of his said son Edward. Names also his own wife Eleanor, and Eleanor his daughter-in-law, late wife of his son John Poyntz, deceased, to whom he devises a dwelling house at Bowteport, Barnstaple. He mentions also his daughter, Joan Baker, and his grandchild, Joan Bisse, daughter of Joan Baker. The will was proved by John Poyntz, nephew of testator from his brother.² His relict, Eleanor Poyntz, widow made her will 28th March, 1670. Gives certain furniture in her house at Heanton Punchardon, to her son, George Langdon. Names her daughters Rawlin Poyntz, Elizabeth Joyce, and Elinor Poyntz, also her grand-children, John Langdon and Ann Joyce. Makes her grand-child, Elinor Poyntz, executrix, and sons George and John Langdon, overseers.³

John Poyntz, the second son of John Poyntz and Margaret Wyott, was of Braunton. He had a son John, a daughter Elizabeth, and other children. His death occurred in November, 1653, and he was buried at Arlington the 24th of that month.⁴ By his will, dated 5th April, 1651, he gave to the said Elizabeth all his goods on his lands at Braunton, and made her executrix. Residue to be equally divided among his other children. The will was proved by Elizabeth, daughter and executrix. John, his son, as we have seen above, proved his uncle's will in 1668.⁵

Of John Poyntz, the second son of Edward Poyntz, the elder, of Barnstaple and Bittadon, and his other younger children, it will suffice to refer to the tabular pedigree.

¹ State Papers Dom. Charles I. Vol. ccclxxxv, No. 69.

² P.C.C. Prob. 16 April, 1668. (51 Hene).

³ Prob. 27th January, 1670-1.

⁴ Braunton Reg.

⁵ Prob. 23rd June, 1654 (4 Alchin).

We have just seen above that Edward Poyntz the elder devised all his lands in Bittadon to his son and heir Edward Poyntz, for life remainder to John his eldest son and the heirs of the said John, and upon his father's death, the said Edward took up his residence in Bittadon. He married a lady named Petronell of whose parentage we are ignorant. By her he had two children, John his son and heir who has been already several times mentioned, and a daughter Mary who at an early age was married to Edward, son of Matthew Leeworthy. Edward Poyntz, married secondly, late in life, a lady named Sage, by whom he had two children, a son Edward who was born cir. 1670, and a daughter Rawlin. John Poyntz of Barnstaple, son and heir of Edward, married twice, first in 1658, Joan daughter of . . . Leeworthy, by whom he had no issue—She died in 1665, and shortly afterwards he married a lady named Elinor, by whom he had a daughter named Petronell. He died in 1685 in the lifetime of his father in the 49th year of his age, having made his will on the 2nd of July in that year, by which he devised all his lands in Bittadon called Northcote, Cowlemore, and Bittadon to his daughter Petronell and her heirs for ever; bequeathed all his goods, &c. to Elinor his wife, and Petronell his daughter whom he appoints sole executrix, and if Petronell dies without issue the lands to revert to the right heirs of his father Edward Poyntz for ever.¹

Edward Poyntz, the father, made his will the 6th February, 1686-7. He made bequests to his daughter-in-law, Elinor Poyntz, and his grand-daughter Petronell Poyntz. To Sage his wife the tenement in Barnstaple, then occupied by his cousin Elizabeth Hales, for life, then to his son Edward Poyntz, (then under sixteen years of age) for 2000 years. To his daughter Rawlin or whom she may marry, &c, his term in middle Marwood. Mentions Metcombe, which is near Mervin's land, "where I was born" appoints Henry Symons of Bittadon executor, and John Thomas of Pricks Ford, Thomas Hale of Metcombe, and Ellinor his daughter-in-law overseers. By a codical dated 13th September, 1691, he gives to his daughter Rawlin all his lands in Heanton Punchardon, called Neatlands for the term he had therein. Inventory £1201.²

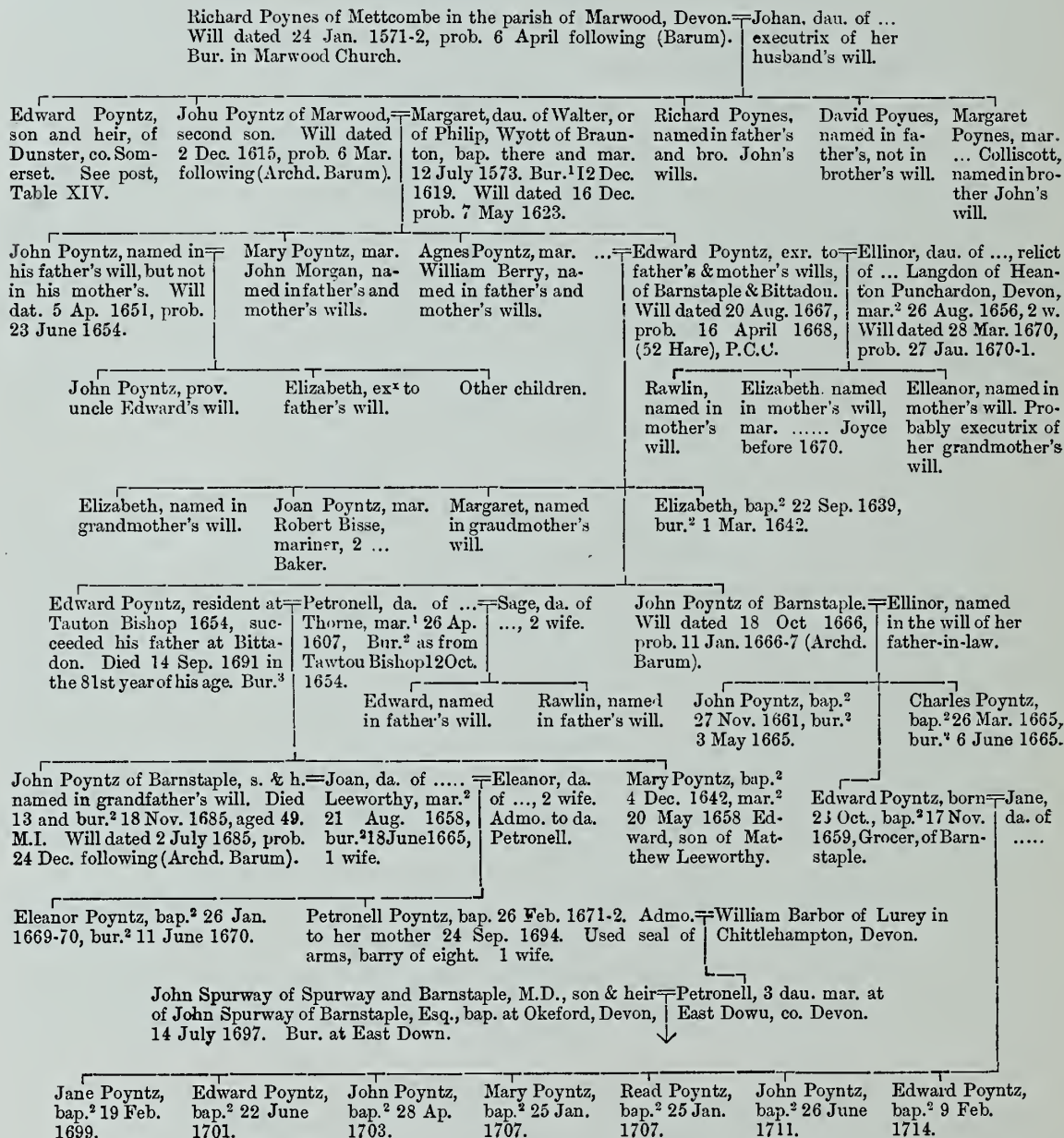
Petronell Poyntz, after the death of her father enjoyed the settled property at Bittadon; she married William Barber of Chittlehampton in Devon and had issue among others a daughter called by her own name who married John Spurway of Barnstaple to whom she carried the said lands, and died in 4th April, 1794.

¹ Prob. 24th December, 1685, Barum.

² Prob. 24th June, 1692, Barum.

POYNTZ OF DEVON AND SOMERSET.

TABLE XII.

¹ At Marwood.² At Barnstaple.³ At Bittadon.

POYNTZ OF SOMERSET.

CHAPTER XI.

The Poyntzs of Devon and those of Somerset were so closely connected and intermixed, that it is very difficult to treat of them separately; nevertheless we must endeavour to do so. The first of the family who settled in the latter county would appear to have been Edward Poyntz, son and heir of Richard Poyntz of Mettcott, (see ante Ped., No. XII.) who established himself at Dunster, though he would seem to have migrated, from time to time, from Dunster to Devon.

He married Margaret, daughter of Amias Chichester of Arlington, co. Devon,¹ and in the Chichester pedigree is described as son and heir of John.² He would appear to have had a residence in Arlington, where he made his will, 29th July, 1583, in which he directed that his body should be buried in the church of Dunster. He names his five younger children Ann, Gartred, Mary, Philip, and Charles; his two eldest sons Robert Poyntz and John Poyntz, and desires the latter to be good to his mother. Residue of his goods to his wife Margaret Poyntz. Names his brother-in-law Henry Chichester, Gent., and his brother John Poyntz, whom, with his friend John Over, he appoints overseers of his will.³

¹ Amias Chichester was the son of John Chichester of Raleigh and was the first of his name who was seated at Arlington. Westwood says of him:—"This Amassia, by Joan his wife, daughter of Sir Roger Giffard, Knight, had nineteen sons, every one of which (what you may think much stranger) had no less than four sisters; fourteen of the nineteen lived to be proper gentlemen, though not above three of them had issue. When they went all to church, the first would be in the church porch, before the last would be out of the house.

² Herald's Visitation of Devon, 1620, but the lady is there called Mary. (Harl. Soc. vol. vi. p. 54.) On the 18th July, 1637, Adm^o of the goods, &c., of Amias Chichester of Arlington, Esq. (the grandson of the former) was granted to John Poyntz, Gent., during the minority of John, Edward, Robert, Marie, Anne, Susan, Elizabeth and Katherine Chichester, the children of the deceased. (Archd. Court of Barum.) (?) Was this John Poyntz of West Combe.

³ Prob. P.C.C., 24 Jan., 1583-4.

It was found upon the Inquisition taken at Chard on 8th August, 1584, in which he is described as Edward Poyntes, *alias* Poynes, Burgess of Dunster, that on the day on which he died he was seized of certain burgages in Dunster, &c., and of land called Foremarsh in Carhampton, and that he held the said burgages in Dunster, of George Luttrell, Esq., in free socage as of the Castle of Dunster. And it was found that he died 29th July, 1583, and that Robert Poyntz was his son and nearest heir, and was aged 20 years and more.¹

In the Dunster Parish Registers, is the following entry of a burial: 1579. "Edward Poyntz *alias* Poynes was buried y^e 30th July." This was probably the eldest son of the Edward abovementioned, and it may be noticed that with respect to him the *alias* which his grandfather had used is continued. Besides this supposed son and Robert Poyntz who was returned as his heir Edward Poyntz by his wife Margaret Chichester, had several other children for whom we must refer to the tabular pedigree annexed, (Table XIV.) of some of whom we shall treat hereafter.

Robert Poyntz son and heir of Edward, acquired a portion of the estate of Leigh in the parish of Old Cleeve, co. Somerset, in the circumstances hereafter to be related, and because it has been thought that the Poyntz family possessed that estate from an early date, it is desirable that we should here give some account of its history.

Poyntz of Leighlands.

Mr. Lewis Way in a Paper treating of the *Encaustic Armorial Tiles in the County of Somerset*, printed in the Annual Volume of the Archæological Institute for 1851, refers first to a large number of such tiles then remaining in Leighland Chapel and Cleeve Abbey in the parish of Old Cleeve. Among these were several charged *Barry of six Gules and Or*. As a branch of the

¹ Inq. p.m. 25 Elizab. In the Dunster Register of burials his interment is not recorded. It is worthy of remark that one of the ancient altar slabs was appropriated as his gravestone, and laid over his body in the north aisle. It bore the following inscription around the margin:—"Here lyeth | the Body of Edward Poyntz, Gentleman, | whom God hath taken to his Mercy the 19th of July | 1583." The date of the year was placed in the middle of the stone. Several other inscriptions in memory of members of the family were inscribed on the same stone about a century later, to which we shall refer hereafter.

On the restoration of the church about fifteen years ago the altar slab was taken up by Mr. Luttrell, the patron of the church, and removed to its proper position in the Lady Chapel, and he had the inscription engraved on a brass plate, verbatim, and laid over the bodies.

family of Poyntz held for several descents the principal estate in Leighlands, and as the chapel was near their residence, he thought that probably these tiles were intended to display their arms. The old chapel of Leighland is now destroyed. Similar tiles have also been found in Old Cleeve Church, and may at this time be seen in the Refectory of Cleeve Abbey and in one of the chapels at Dunster Church.

The tiles referred to would appear to be of the date of the fifteenth century, and the family of Poyntz, so far as we can trace, had no connection with this part of Somerset until the middle of the sixteenth century, nor with Leigh, until the end of the seventeenth.

Leigh in the fifteenth century was a Grange belonging to the Abbey of Old Cleeve, and in the 27 Henry VIII (1536), two years before the dissolution of the house, the Abbot and Convent entered into a bond obligatory to John Sydenham of Nettlecombe, Gent., for the sum of £400, faithfully to observe and perform all the covenants and agreements, comprised in a pair of Indentures of even date, made between the said Abbot and Convent of the one part and the said John Sydenham of the other part, concerning a lease for a term of years of the Farm or Grange called Leigh in the parish of Old Cleeve.¹

The lease is not forthcoming, but the form of the bond leads to the conclusion that the lease conveyed the Grange of Leigh to John Sydenham; and this is confirmed by the fact that John Sydenham resided at Leigh ten years afterwards.

Upon the dissolution of the Abbey, by letters patent, dated 30th January, 1537-8,² the King granted the reversion of the house and site of the Abbey and divers messuages in Old Clyve, &c., including Leigh, the advowson of the church of Old Clyve excepted, to Robert Radcliffe, Earl of Sussex; and this grant was confirmed by a further grant, four years later, in which it is stated to be in consideration of the good and acceptable services of the said Earl in the north a long time since. It is concluded that soon after this John Sydenham bought of this Earl, who died in 1542, or of his successor the reversion in fee.³

By his will dated the 16th April, 1547,⁴ John Sydenham directed that his body should be buried in the chancel of Cleeve Church. His relict Joan, also, by her will, dated 18th January, 1548-9,⁵ directed her body to be buried in the same place, next to the body of John Sydenham her husband.

¹ Hugo's Cleeve Abbey, p. 41.

² Originalia 29 Hen. VIII. Som. Roll. 28.

³ Ibid. 33 Hen. VIII, Rot. 22.

⁴ P.C.C. Prob. 27 Aug., 1547 (45 Alen.)

⁵ P.C.C. Prob. 28 Jan., 1549-50 (2 Coode.)

John Sydenham of Leigh was succeeded there by his son and heir of the same name, who was so wealthy that he was called "Sydenham with the Golden Flyse" (fleece).¹ He married one Ursula Bevyn who survived him and possessed a considerable part of his estate. It was alleged that he made a will, but we have not been able to discover it or any letters of Administration to his Effects. This matter was the cause of great litigation.

Sir John Poyntz of Iron Acton, who we have seen (ante, pp. 87, 96) married Elizabeth, daughter and sole heir of Alexander Sydenham of Luxborough, co. Somerset, the elder brother of the aforesaid John, in right of his wife as heir of the said John, upon the death of the said John, entered into possession of the Manor of Syndercombe in the said County, and he complained in the Star Chamber, in Hilary term 35th Elizabeth, that on the marriage of the said Sir John with the said Elizabeth Sydenham, in the advancement of the marriage of his niece being then his heir apparent, the said John Sydenham had faithfully promised that all the premises in Syndercombe and all his lands, whatsoever, upon his death should descend to the said Elizabeth and remain to her and her heirs for ever; and that during his life he had always consistently adhered to that promise. That upon the death of the said John Sydenham on 6th May 33 Elizabeth, (1591) he and his said wife into the said premises entered, and were, in the right of the said Elizabeth, thereof lawfully seized in demesne as of fee, and received the rents and issues until now of late one John Hensleigh, Gent., nephew of the said John Sydenham, son of Margaret, wife of Robert Hensleigh and sister of the said John, did by unlawful means obtain unto himself the capital messuage, &c. of Syndercombe. To compass this he had represented that the said John Sydenham had made a will and thereby had bequeathed the said premises to him, whereas, if such a will existed, it had been made in the time of the said John's extremity, when he was not of perfect remembrance, or forged after his death and ante-dated, and ought not to be accepted and proved in any Court temporal or spiritual. Yet the said John Hensleigh had riotously entered into the said premises and to strengthen his title had practised and procured one Ursula Sydenham, widow, late wife of the said John Sydenham, to pretend that the third part of the said Manor, and of all other the lands of the said John Sydenham, did appertain to her as dower, and to bring divers writs of dower against the complainant and his wife before the Justices of the Common Pleas, and that through the labours of the said

¹ Chancery Proceedings, Depositions—Elizabeth, James and Charles, p. No. 39. Poyntz v. Sydenham.

John Hensleigh, she did obtain an erroneous recovery and had a writ for the execution of the said judgment out of the Common Pleas directed to the Sheriff of Somerset in the same term. He, the said Sir John Poyntz, hearing of these proceedings, obtained, in the same term, a writ of error and was awarded a writ of *supersedeas* to the Sheriff requiring him to forbear the execution of the former writ of *scire facias*. Notwithstanding which, by the evil proceedings of the said John Hensleigh, and by subterfuge and fraud, and intimidation of the Sheriff, George Speke, Esq., he induced that officer, accompanied by thirty horsemen, all armed, to proceed on Sunday, 24th February to Syndercombe, where Ursula Sydenham, John Hensleigh, and their adherents, all armed with swords and all manner of weapons, were assembled in a riotous manner to meet the Sheriff; and to give some colour to the proceedings the Sheriff then and there impannelled a jury and did set out one half of the lands to be delivered to the said Ursula as her third part, and she the said Ursula with great violence took possession.¹

Several other riots and outrages in the following months were complained of and a subpoena was prayed for.

The Bill of Complaint is very long and we have abstracted the charges as briefly as the circumstances will allow.

The Replication of Ursula Sydenham and the others defendants retorts the charges of violence and riot in a threefold degree, but there does not appear to be any denial of the substantial facts alleged.²

We do not know what was the final judgment in this case, which has, however, only an indirect bearing upon our history, and the decision in the Common Pleas above recited would appear to have governed all Ursula Sydenham's claims upon the estate of her deceased husband, but we would remark that the third part of the lands which she held were not, as usual, for the term of her life, but in fee.

Ursula Sydenham, during her life, granted to her cousin Robert Poyntz and Margaret his wife, her third part of Leigh Grange, and of all her other tenements in Leigh, and he thenceforward seated himself there.

We have not been able to trace the kindred between Ursula Sydenham and Robert Poyntz, nor can we, notwithstanding the numerous cousins named in her will below, as yet discover her own paternity. She made her will the 12th October, 1606, in which she desired that she might be buried in the

¹ Star Chamber Proceedings, 35 Elizabeth. Poyntz v. Sydenham, Feb. 7.

² Ibid. 36 Elizab. 1593. Ursula Sydenham v. Greenslade and others. Bundle 6, No. 23.

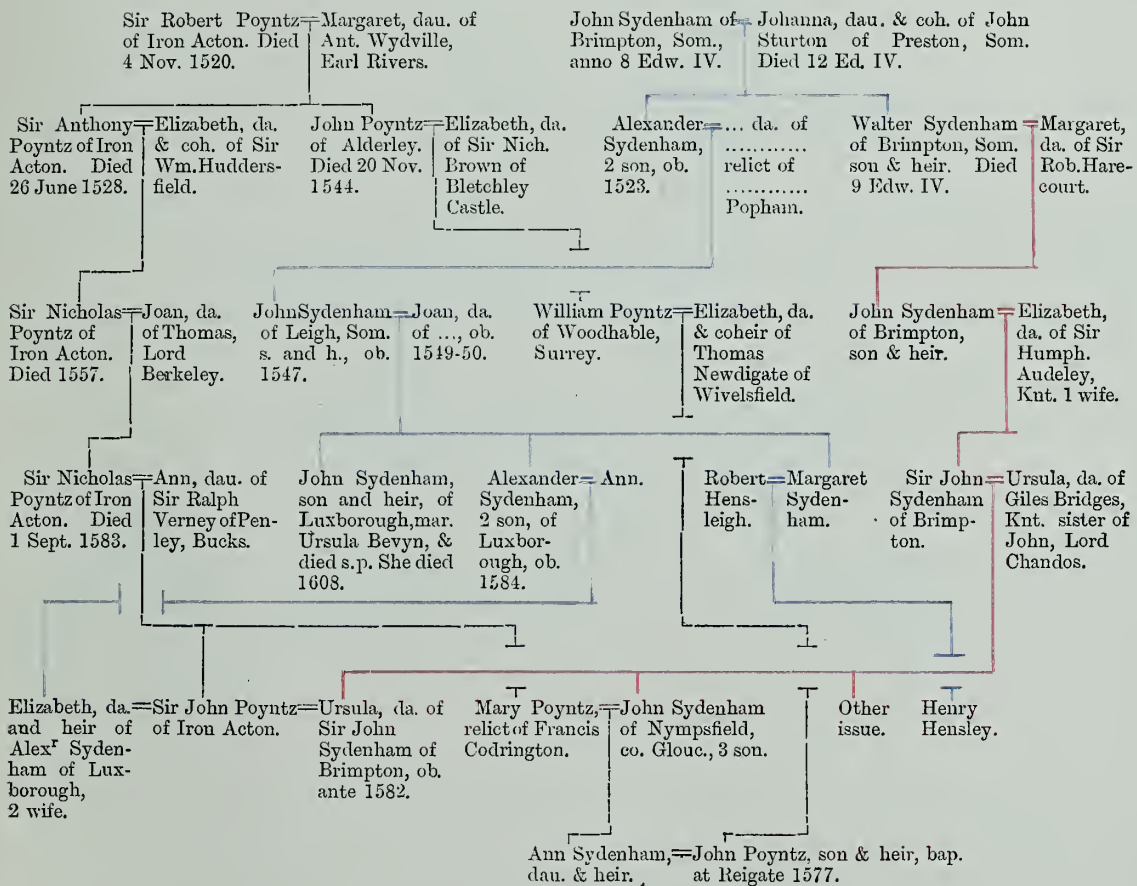
chancel of Old Cleeve Church near her husband. After several charitable bequests she names her *cousins*: Dorothy Whittington, Franncseys Whittington, Bachelor, Ursula Seymour, John Seymour, Henry Seymour his brother, Ellis Seymour his brother, John Poyntz, Henry Hensleigh, George Baurkley *alias* Poyntz, Arthur Hines, Hugh Seymour, Joan Seymour his sister and John Whittington. Several of these were also her godchildren and to each she gives a legacy varying from £100 to £5. She gives also small legacies to all her godchildren living in the parish of Old Cleeve, of which there were several, none of whom were of kin, and various other small legacies to servants and others.

She devises and appoints all her third parts of the Manors of Sutton Montague, Sutton Horsey, Crofton and divers other Manors and lands in the County of Somerset, with all their appurtenances in the said County, to her nephew Henry Hensleigh of Pendoun his heirs and assigns for ever, "Provided always, nevertheless, and my will is that, if my cousin Henry Hensleigh, or any claiming by, from, or under him, after my decease, do or shall not suffer or permit my cousin Robert Poyntz his executors or assigns quietly and peacefully to enjoy the possession of the Grange in Leigh and all other lands and tenements with their appurtenances according to the tenor, intent, and meaning of a grant thereof, made unto the said Robert and Margaret his wife, that then the said Henry Hensleigh, or any of his children shall not have nor enjoy any part or parts of my bequest aforesaid." After the payment of all her just debts and legacies, all the residue of her goods, &c. she gives to her aforesaid cousin Robert Poyntz, and makes him sole executor. She requests her cousins Richard Hill, Knt., and John Trevelian, junior, Esq., to be witnesses to her will, and gives them five marks apiece. We have stated the numerous kinsfolk named in the will, as it may enable someone better acquainted than we are with the local genealogy, to identify this somewhat remarkable woman.

The intermarriages between the families of Poyntz and Sydenham (see pedigree, Table XIII) were very numerous. Sir John Poyntz of Iron Acton, who died in 1633, married two Sydenham wives. His first wife was Ursula, daughter of Sir John Sydenham of Brimpton, co. Som., and upon her death before 1582 (ante, pp. 87, 96) he married Elizabeth, daughter and sole heir of Alexander Sydenham of Luxborough, in the same county, whilst his sister Mary married, first Francis Codrington of Frampton upon-Severn, by whom she had issue; and, secondly, she became the second wife of John Sydenham of Nympsfield, co. Glouc., third son of the aforesaid Sir John Sydenham, by whom she was the mother of Anne, who married John Poyntz of Reigate, co. Surrey.

INTERMARRIAGES OF THE FAMILIES OF POYNTZ AND SYDENHAM.

TABLE XIII.



Edward Poyntz of Dunster, son and heir of Richard Poyntz or Poynes of Mettcombe, died as stated, (ante p. 261) leaving his wife and several children. His relict, however, did not long survive him. She made her will (nuncupative) 27th July, 1587, and therein names her three daughters, Ann, Gartrude, and Mary, her two sons Philip and Charles, and her two elder sons, Robert and John, whom she makes her residuary legatees and executors; Robert Chichester of Alrington or Arlington and John Poyntz of West Combe, her brother-in-law being witnesses.¹

Robert Poyntz, son and heir of Edward Poyntz, succeeded by the devise of Ursula, relict of John Sydenham of Leigh, to one third of that estate and to most of her other lands in Old Cleeve. He made his will, in which he describes himself as Robert Poyntz of Leigh, Gent., on 29th June, 1611. He desires to be buried in Old Cleeve Church, and gives ten shillings to maintain Leigh Chapel. He bequeaths his Manor of Foremarsh and all other his lands in Dunster and Carhampton and so much more of any other his land of inheritance as together with the said Manor and other his said lands in Dunster and Carhampton shall make up the full third part of all his lands of inheritance to Giles Poyntz his eldest son and the heirs males of his body, and in default of such issue, remainder to Henry Poyntz, testator's son, and the heirs male of his body, the said Henry to have his sufficient maintenance out of the farm, or grange of Leigh, and other tenements in Leigh during his minority. Names his sister Mary Waye, and his sister Ann Poyntz, Grace Waye his kinswoman, supposed to be the daughter of Mary Waye, his sister-in-law Temperance Poyntz, and his aunt Sydenham, Alice daughter of his brother John Poyntz, his brother Philip Poyntz, and makes his son Giles executor and residuary legatee. Appoints his friends Henry, son of Sir John Wyndham, Knt., Gawen Mallett, William Sydenham, testator's brother John Poyntz, Henry Hensleigh and George Hooper, overseers. The will is witnessed by two John Poyntzs, supposed to be the uncle and brother of testator. His two sons being under age, John Poyntz of Alrington, brother of the deceased, proved the will during the minority of Giles.²

Giles Poyntz of Leighlands was admitted a Student of the Inner Temple in November, 1619. We know nothing of his early career, but on the breaking out of the Civil War, he attached himself to the Royal cause, and this offence being aggravated by the fact of his being a Popish Recusant, his lands were sequestrated by the Commissioners of Sequestration at Taunton. On

¹ P.C.C. Prob. 18th Nov., 1587. (93 Cobham.)

² P.C.C. Prob. 23rd Oct., 1611. (84 Wood.)

the 27th March, 1650, it was ordered that Mrs. Agnes Poyntz, the wife of Gyles Poyntz Esq. a recusant in arms, should be allowed a full fifth of her husband's estate.¹ On 9th June, 1653, Gyles Poyntz, Esq., of Leigh, petitions for the benefit of a favourable composition. He states that not being one of the persons named in the third Act for Sale, the Parliament having graciously provided for such as desire to compound for their estates at the rate of two sixths, &c., and being desirous to embrace the mercy of the Parliament, humbly craves the benefit of compounding for his estates, according to the provisions of the Act. But so it is, he says, that there is jointure to Agnes, my wife, charged upon the estates, and also a lease of all or most of the estates, for five years to come, to one Alexander Kingsland, letten to him by the Commissioners of the said County, and many other incumbrances, &c., "for which he prays for the examination of witnesses." His petition, however, was not acceded to, probably on account of his recusancy, which placed him beyond the pale of the law or other considerations, and on the day following the date of his petition, a contract was entered into by the Trustees, for the sale of lands and estates, forfeited to the Commonwealth, with one Thomas Wharting of Gray's Inn, Gent., for the purchase of the Manor of Foremarsh and lands in Dunster and Carhampton, and for a mansion house called Lee Farm, &c., in the parish of Old Cleeve, Somerset, late parcel of the estates of Gyles Poyntz, Esq. Nevertheless, this sale does not seem to have taken effect, for it appears from a suit in Chancery, *Poyntz v. Kingsland*, relating to money matters in June 1659, that though his estates were sequestrated, he was then allowed to rent them of the Sequestrators at £180 a year.²

Giles Poyntz was twice married. His first wife was named Agnes, as we have seen above, and it appears from his will below, that she was the sister of John Vincent of Gray's Inn. She was still living in 1653, but we do not know when she died. By her he had no issue. His second wife was Prudence, daughter of George Rowe, Esq., of Kingston, in Staverton, co. Devon, by Dorothy Horde. By her he had two children, Clement and Dorothy. She long survived her husband.

Giles Poyntz made his will the 6th February, 1665-6. Gives to his daughter Dorothy Poyntz £1000, at the age of 21, or if she marry, within six months after her marriage, meanwhile, to receive £30 a year. To his son Clement Poyntz £50 a year, for his maintenance during his minority. To all his "Catholique" servants 20s. each and his other servants 10s. each, "£200

¹ Royalist Comp. Papers, 2 Series, Vol. xlix. 719.

² Chancery Proceedings, Bridge's 405. *Poyntz v. Kingsland*.

to be paid as my wife¹ knows my will is." To his brother John Vincent of Gray's Inn, Esq., £3 for rings. Testator's wife to be executrix, "she not to be charged with any legacies or debts, which shall be paid out of my son Clement's estate during his minority," and if testator's son and daughter die before they are 21, his wife to enjoy the farm or Barton of Leigh, during her life.

A codicil is added, dated 7th June, 1666, providing for his daughter's legacy of £1000.² The will is remarkable as shewing that, notwithstanding his losses during the Civil War, he left considerable property.

Clement Poyntz of Leigh died in 1685, in the lifetime of his mother, unmarried, his sister having pre-deceased him, also unmarried. He made his will on 16th May, 1684. After giving to his servant Giles Chichester £20 a year for 80 years, and to Francis Pype £10 a year, both annuities to be paid out of the Grange Barton and farms of Leigh, he devises all his lands, manors, messuages, &c., to his mother Prudence Poyntz and her heirs for ever, and gives her the residue of all his personal estates. He adds a codicil dated 25th August, 1685, making the annuity of £20 to Giles Chichester contingent upon his continuing a servant to his mother during her life.³

This will caused much litigation and had a remarkable history. Giles Poyntz of Arlington, co. Devon, kinsman and heir-at-law to the deceased Clement, conceived that he had been unjustly ousted out of his inheritance into which, upon the death of her son, Prudence Poyntz had entered and quietly possessed the same. On the 8th November, 1687, by bill in Chancery in which the will and codicil are recited in full, she complains that now Giles Poyntz of Arlington, Gent., pretends a title to the same as heir-at-law to Clement Poyntz, and claims the same, giving out in speeches that Clement Poyntz made no will and died intestate; or, if he made a will he was not *compos mentis*, or that he afterwards revoked it. Prudence Poyntz alleged that the witnesses to the will are very aged and infirm, and not in probability have long to live, and that without the preservation of their testimony she may be defeated of her estate, and she prays for a subpoena that Giles Poyntz may appear and on his oath set forth the truth of the premises, &c.⁴

On the 28th October, 1689, Prudence Poyntz exhibited another bill against Giles Poyntz, in which the said will and codicil are again recited, and she

¹ This was of course to uses deemed superstitious.

² P.C.C. Prob., 15 Dec., 1666. (179 Mico.)

³ P.C.C. Prob., 12 Oct., 1685. Bishop's Court Wells.

⁴ Chancery Bills and Answers. Reynardson, No. 489, 87.

complains that the said Giles Poyntz, being duly served with a subpoena to appear and answer to the bill of 1687, he caused one of the clerks of the office to appear for him, but that he had since stood out all process of contempt into a commission of rebellion for refusing to answer the said bill, and was lately taken into custody by a messenger of the court by virtue of an order, and hath made his escape, and utterly refuseth to answer the bill. Prudence Poyntz further states that since the exhibiting of the bill, about the month of November last, she, intending to depart from her dwelling house at Leigh and go away for London, and, there being great disturbances in the west at that time, she was advised to carry the chief of her writings along with her. She accordingly, procured one Richard Blackford, late of Dunster, one of the Masters Extraordinary of the Court of Chancery, whom she had always employed in her affairs, to look out such deeds, &c. as were of the greatest concern for the making out of her title to the said manors, &c., and did put them up and take with her in a small trunk the said original will, in the said bill exhibited, and other deeds and writings, and brought the same to London about the beginning of December last, and having lodgings in or near Drury Lane, the "wrabble" being very tumultuous and committing many exorbitant acts upon his late Majestie King James the Second withdrawing himself from Whitehall, she was persuaded, for the safety of her writings, to put the said trunk, wherein were the original will and other evidences, into the house of His Excellency the Spanish Ambassador, commonly called Wild House in Wild Street, and some few hours after she had placed the trunk therein the "wrabble" brake into the house and "ruffled" the same, and took away the trunk, and scattered and "imbessiled" the said will and deeds, since which time the said will hath not been heard of, nor hath she been able to get the same, or to hear anything where the will is, although she hath made diligent enquiries. And some few of the other of the said deeds, &c., thus lost and thrown up and down the streets, were afterwards taken up and brought unto her by several persons; by means of which accident she is in great danger of losing her estate unless aided and relieved by this Honorable Court. The said Giles Poyntz, understanding the said will cannot be produced, doth now give out that he will bring ejectments against her and turn her out of the possession of the said lands, &c., although he well knoweth, in his own conscience, that the said will did agree with what had been exhibited in this Court, for that a transcript of it was filed in the Court and he had a copy of it. And she prays for a subpoena for him to appear, &c.

We have not found the decree of the Court in this suit, but the will was

upheld and Prudence Poyntz was seized of the premises at the time of her death. She made her will on 23rd September, 1691, wherein she described herself as Prudence Poyntz, widow, of Leighlands, Old Cleeve, and bequeaths to Robert Rowe of Kingston, in Staverton, Devon, her kinsman, all her farms, messuages, barton, &c.¹ in Leigh, and her Manors and Lordships of Dunster, Carhampton, &c., and her burgage tenements in Dunster, purchased by her or by Clement Pointz her son, deceased, of one Horman, and all other lands in Somerset, and she goes on to say: "notwithstanding the unkindness shewn to me by Giles Pointz, now or late of Bachet, in Arlington, Devon, and because of his relationship to my late husband, and being of the same name, since my late son by his will gave me the said Lordships, &c., if the said Giles Pointz pay £600 to the said Robert Rowe, then he may have the said lands, &c." Gives to her brother William Rowe, Edward Pointz, Gent., brother of Giles Pointz, £10 per annum. To Barbara Vincent, widow, her sister, she gives £100 to pay the debts of Thomas Vincent her son—to her nieces Jane and Dorothy Vincent £100 each—to kinswoman Dorothy Coffin—to Giles Chichester, son of my cousin John Chichester of Arlington, Esq., my new silver porringer—to John Rowe, Doctor of Physic, James, Thomas and Elizabeth Rowe, my nephews and niece, one guinea each—to nephew Richard Rowe £100—to Mary Rouse, daughter of George Rouse, my kinsman £100 at 21 years of age—legacies to the poor of Leighlands, &c.²

Giles Poyntz did not elect to pay Robert Rowe the £600 stipulated in the will, as the latter entered upon and continued in possession of Leighlands, and we shall find presently that a friendly spirit existed between these parties.

After the rising in the North in 1715, in favour of the cause of the Stuarts, an Act of Parliament was passed requiring all Roman Catholics, non-jurors, and others who refused to take the oath of allegiance to George I, to make a return to certain Commissioners of all their manors, lands or other real estate, and of the annual value of the same, as fixed by themselves, and in the Return for the County of Somerset, appears the name of Robert

¹ Dr. Oliver states that one of the conditions of the gift of Leighlands to her nephew Mr. Rowe, was the maintaining of a Benedictine Chaplain. If the Chaplain lived in the house, he was to have his diet and a horse kept free of expense and a salary of £7 per annum, otherwise the salary to be £10. In either case he was to celebrate a determined number of Masses, and, should the family cease to keep a priest, then £300 to be paid to the Benedictine Province.

Fr. Richard King was Chaplain and died 2nd July, 1664.

Fr. B. Mellington, Chaplain, died 4th August, 1667.

"Dr. Oliver's Collection for the History of the Catholic Religion in the Western Counties."

² P.C.C. Prob. 18th Nov., 1691 (196 Vere).

Rowe of Leighland, Esq., £322 19s. 8½d., being the highest value of any recusant's estate in the County save one. In the same returns stands also the name of "Giles Chichester for an annuity out of Leighland in the possession of Robert Rowe, Esq." The amount of this annuity is not stated, but it was the £20 a year given to him by the will of Clement Poyntz, see ante p. 272.¹

By the death of Clement Poyntz s.p. the senior line of this branch failed, and we must return to the younger children of Edward Poyntz. Of the eight children, Robert, John, Philip and Mary seem to have been all who survived, of whom John appears to have been the second son. He settled at Arlington and of him we have more definite touch. He married at Arlington in 1600, Temperance, daughter of Philip Blynch of that parish, and they had five children baptised there between 1602 and 1612,² and Humphry Berrye of Berrynarber, co. Devon, in his will, proved the 16th January, 1618-9, bequeaths a gold ring to Mr. John Poyntz of Arlington as a remembrance.³

Philip Poyntz, the fourth son of Edward and Margaret Poyntz, was of Greenham in the parish of Ashbrittle, co Som., of which parish he was Churchwarden in 1630, 1631 and 1636. He was twice married. We do not know who was his first wife, but by her he had three daughters:—

1. Frances Poyntz who married George Cheeke of Greenham, Gent., who names her in his will,⁴ proved 12th July, 1650.
2. Elizabeth who married one . . . Pyne.
3. Mary who married Tristram Woode, son of Tristram Woode of Kittesford, co. Som., in whose will,⁵ both she and her husband are named and her father is one of the witnesses.

Philip Poyntz married, secondly Joan Lancaster, relict of Arthur Bluet of Holcombe Rogos, co. Devon, Esq., the fact of which marriage is confirmed by certain proceedings in Chancery, dated the 12th Nov., 1624, in which the said Philip is described as of Ashbrittle, and Johane his wife, relict of Arthur Bluet

¹ "English Catholic Nonjurors," p. 229.

² *Baptisms at Arlington.*

1602-3 John, son of John and Temperance Poyntz, Gent., bap. 16 March. Buried 18 Mar. 1602-3.

1604 Edward, son of the same, bap. 12 May.

1606 Richard, son of John Poyntz, Gent., 24 Sept.

1609 Alles, dau. of John and Temperance Poyntz, 29 March.

1611-2 Elizabeth, da. of the same, 28 Feb.

³ P.C.C. (8 Parker.)

⁴ P.C.C. (108 Pembroke.)

⁵ P.C.C. Prob. 5 June, 1639. (114 Harvey.)

are complainants, and one Gamlyn defendant.¹ Elizabeth Bluet, widow, relict of John Bluet, son of the said Arthur, bequeaths "to my mother Poyntz a ring of £5." Philip made his will at Greenham on 16th July, 1645, in which he names his daughters Mary Wood and Elizabeth Pyne, also his second wife's three daughters by her first husband, Arthur Bluet, viz.: Mrs. Mary Malet, Mrs. Dorothy Risdon, and Mrs. Amy Tounsand, also Mrs. Joan Bluet, relict of Francis Bluet, to each of whom he gives 20s. for a ring and makes his daughter Frances, wife of George Cheeke, residuary legatee and executrix. Giles Poyntz, Esq., and Tristram Wood, Gent., overseers.²

To the other children of Edward Poyntz and Margaret Chichester, we must refer to the tabular pedigree No. XIV.

Edward Poyntz the eldest surviving son of John Poyntz of Arlington and Temperance Blynch his wife, succeeded his father. We know but little concerning him. The whole family were of the Roman Communion and the parochial Church records afford us but scanty information.

Edward Poyntz married a lady whose name was Mary, but we know not her parentage. We learn from his will, which he made at Arlington on the 18th November, 1678, that he had several children. He names Mary Poyntz his wife, his sons Giles, Edward and John, and his daughters Ann, Temperance and Prudence, to each of whom he gives a nominal legacy. Residue of all his goods to his wife Mary Poyntz and makes her executrix, she to pay his debts and divide what remains among all his children, according to the discretion of Major Pyne.³ Edward Poyntz was buried at Arlington on 25th November, 1678, and Mrs. Mary Poyntz, probably his relict, 26th October, 1703 and it is noted "without a Priest." We have already remarked that the family were Roman Catholics, which will explain this note.

John Poyntz, probably the youngest son of Edward named in his will, appears to have died s.p. He made his will, in which he describes himself as of Dunster, on the 2nd November, 1751. He names therein his nieces Elinor Dewbouis, Temperance Long, Ann Hill, widow, and Frances Poyntz, mentions his kinsman John Newbury, and makes his two nieces Frances and Temperance Poyntz, joint executrices and residuary legatees. The will was proved by Frances Poyntz, spinster, on 13th November 1759,⁴ power being reserved to Temperance Poyntz.

Giles Poyntz the eldest son of Edward Poyntz of Arlington and Mary his

¹ Chanc. Proc. Bund. 57, No. 14.

² P.C.C. Probate, 10 May, 1646 (59 Twisse).

³ Will proved in the Archd. of Barum, 14 Mar., 1678-9.

⁴ P.C.C. (370 Array).

wife, resided at Yarnscombe. He was the claimant of the possessions of Clement Poyntz of Leighlands, against Prudence Poyntz, widow, mother of the said Clement, who, he alleged, died intestate, in which, as appears by his will, presently to be abstracted, he seems to have been, at least partially, successful.

The will of Giles Poyntz of Yarnscombe, co. Devon, Gent., dated 30th August, 1714, To be buried at the discretion of my executrix. To my seven daughters £100 a piece at 27 years of age. To my son John Poyntz £100 to bind him apprentice to some trade, and the residue at 21. To Robert Rowe of Old Cleeve, Esq., John Poyntz of Forehill, co. Wilts., Gent., Edward Farnhill of the same place, Gent., and Thomas Prowse of Dunster, Gent. All my manors of Foremarsh in Dunster and Carhampton and all my other lands in Somerset, in trust, &c. The Barton of Marsh, to Ann my wife for her life in lieu of dower and for the maintenance of my daughters and youngest son, also £5 annually. £4 annually to each of my children from the death of my wife, until their portions above-named comes to them. Money owed to Francis Grimes, "Gent., of Carhampton and to William Blachford of Dunster, Esq. Lands, &c., to the use of son Giles for 99 years, profits for the education of my son Giles now under 21. Temperance Poyntz one of the witnesses. Probate granted to Ann Poyntz, relict of deceased, 26th August, 1715.¹

It is difficult to identify with accuracy the site of the manor of Foremarsh. There are two places on the western side of the parish of Carhampton, about a mile from Dunster, called Higher Marsh and Lower Marsh very near together, and another place called Marshwood on the eastern side of the same parish. This is stated to have been always an appendage of the castle and had a fine park attached to it, disparked about the middle of the last century. We may therefore conclude that this was not the site of the manor of Foremarsh. The name *Foremarsh* leads us to think that it refers to Lower Marsh, which being nearest to the sea was described as *Fore*, in distinction from Higher Marsh, lying further back.² Doubtless both were included in the said manor. At the former is an ancient Manor House, now used as a farm house, to which doubtless was attached the Barton, or demesne lands, bequeathed to the relict in lieu of dower. Its situation near to Dunster would also render it probable, for in the Church of Dunster, is a memorial of three of the daughters of Giles Poyntz, who were all buried subsequent to the death of their father, whilst their mother, in all likelihood, was resident in her dower house.

¹ P.C.C. (163 Fagg).

² Savage's Hist. of the Hund. of Carhampton p. 299.

And, moreover, it may be observed that Giles Poyntz describes the manor as being in the parish of Dunster and Carhampton.

Ann Poyntz of Dunster, widow, like Robert Rowe of Leighlands, on 5th October, 1717, made a return of her estate which in accordance with the Act was lodged with the Clerk of the Peace. She states that she holds an estate called Foremarsh in Carhampton for her life, being devised to her by the will of her husband Mr. Giles Poyntz lately deceased, and she states various incumbrances upon it, one of which is an annuity of £10, to one Edward Poyntz during his life. And she states that she is also seized of an annuity or rent-charge of £5, payable out of the high rents of the manor of Foremarsh during her life.

Edward Poyntz of Arlington, Devon, Gent., also makes a return on the same day, stating that he is seized of an annuity out of Lower Marsh during his life and he desires to be registered, being a Roman Catholic.¹

Ann Poyntz died in 1734, leaving several surviving children, all daughters but one, for which see tabular pedigree.

Giles the eldest son, described as late of Dunster, died in 1731, unmarried, and on 13th February, 1733, administration of his effects was granted to John Newcombe and Robert Law, chief creditors *subpœnâ contumacia* of Ann Poyntz, widow, mother, John Poyntz, brother, and Christian, Ann, Temperance, and Frances, sisters of the deceased.

John Poyntz second son was born 2nd July, 1709. He entered the Society of Jesus in the name of Beaumont on 7th September, 1732, and was professed of the Four Vows, 2nd February, 1750-1. He was for many years Procurator of the Province, London. He was violently persecuted on the pretence of employing undue influence with Mrs. Rowe of Trevithods(?) in Cornwall, in the disposal of her property. So he gave way to wrath and removed to Leige where he died on 21st May, 1789, aged 80. Father John Thorpe of Rome in a letter to Henry Lord Arundel of Wardour, dated 19th September, 1789, says: I have motives of a remote date for attesting the religious virtues of the deceased Father John Poyntz. He was not truly known by men, who only considered him invested with the management of pecuniary affairs."²

The following members of the Family we have not been able to identify.

Arlington Parish Register.

1730 Margaret Poyntz, a Papist, bur. 2 Feb.

¹ Sessions Registers, Wells.

² Dr. Oliver's Collectanea Soc. Jes. aud Foley, Vol. vii. p. 629.

Bideford Parish Register.

- 1635 Edw. Poyntz and Grace Peard, mar. 13 Sep.
 1681 Moses Langdon and Sarah Poyns, mar. 9 Feb.
 1687 Mary, da., Janer Poyns and Cath., bap. 20 Jan.
 1689 Phillippe son „ „ „ „ 23 Mar.
 1692 James „ „ „ „ 27 Jan.
 1706 Pascek, wife of James Poynes, bur. 8 July.
 1710 James Poynes, bur. 30 Jan.
 1726 Philip Poynes, bur. 5 May.

Parkham Parish Register.

- 1625 Giles Poyntze, Gent., bur. 16 Jan.

Bampton Parish Register.

- John Poyntz, Gent., died 14 bur. at Arlington, 16 Nov.

JOHN POINTES, BISHOP

NOTE.—In the nave, close to the screen, in Winchester Cathedral, is a table tomb said to enclose the body of Bishop John Pointes, founder of the ancient College of St. Elizabeth, close to Wickham's College of St. Mary near the city. The tomb is of the Tudor period, and bears no Inscription or Arms, but on the choir side of the screen is the following inscription:

DEFVNCTI. CORPVS. TVMVLVS. TENET. ISTE. IOANNIS
 POINTES, WINTONIAE. PRESVLIS. EXIMIL.
 OBIIT MCCCIV.

Upon the death of Bishop Nicholas in 1280, some difficulties arose in the appointment of his successor. Two persons were elected by the monks, but Archbishop Peckham refused to confirm either of them, upon the ground of their being pluralists, and the Pope set both elections aside nominated John de Pontoy, or de Pontisserra, who had been Chancellor of Oxford, and, under the name Pontisserra, Archdeacon of Exeter, and was at that time P.C.L. in the city of Modena. He was elected 9th June, 1282, and consecrated at Rome. The temporalities were restored 11th August in the same year. He died 3rd December, 1304. It seems to be doubtful if he was of the family of Poyntz. The name has been Englished as *Sawbridge*: Pons, a bridge and Serra, a saw.

PEDIGREE OF POYNTZ OF DEVON AND SOMERSET.

TABLE XIV.

Edward Poyntz of Dunster, son and heir of Richard Poyntz of Metcombe in Marwood, co. Devon, named in father's will. (See Table XII). Died 19 July 1583. Will dated same day, prob. 24 Jan. following (24 Butts). Inq. p.m. 8 Aug. 26 Elizab. (1584). Bur. ¹ M.I.				Margaret, da. of Amias Chichester of Arlington, co. Devon. Mar. ² Will dated 27 July, prob. 18 Nov. 1587 (93 Cobham).			
Robert Poyntz, son and heir, aged 20 and more on his father's death, named in grandfather's will. Succeeded by devise of Ursula Bevyne, relict of John Sydenham of Leigh Grange, to a third of that estate and settled there. Will dated 29 June 1611, prob. 23 Oct. following. (84 Wood).		Mary, da. of ...		Charles. — Ann. — Gertrude. Named in father's and mother's will.		Mary Poyntz, mar. William Waye of Torrington, named in father's and mother's will.	
Giles Poyntz, son and heir, of Leigh, named in father's will. Admitted a student at the Inner Temple, Nov. 1619, mar. 1st Agnes, sister of John Vincent of Gray's Inn, s.p. His will dat. 6 Feb. 1665-6, cod. 7 June & prob. 15 Dec. following. Bur. ³ 14 June 1666.		Prudence, da. of ... of Kingston in Staverton, Devon, Esq. Proved her husband's will. Her will dated 23 Sept. & prob. 18 Nov. 1691. Bur. ⁵ 20 Oct. 1691.		Henry, named in father's will. Died young.		John Poyntz of Westcombe, Arlington, Devon.	
Clement Poyntz of Leigh, only son, named in father's will. Will dated 16 May 1684, cod. 25 Aug. 1685, prob. 12 Oct. following (Wells), unmar. Bur. ⁵ 5 Sep. 1685.		a daughter, bap. ⁵ 1 Oct. 1664.		Dorothy Poyntz, named in father's will, not in mother's. Bur. ⁵ 15 July 1670.		Temperance, dau. of Philip Blinch, bap. ² 19 Feb. 1568-9, mar. ² 30 Oct. 1600, named in will of Robert Poyntz, her brother-in-law.	
John, bap. and bur. ² 16 Mar. 1602-3.		Edward Poyntz of Arlington, bap. ² 11 May 1604. Will dated 18 Nov. 1678, prob. 14 Mar. 1678-9. Bur. ² 25 Nov. 1678.		Richard, bap. ² 24 Sep. 1606.		Frances Poyntz, bap. ⁴ 27 Sep. 1615, mar. George Cheeke of Greenham. His will dated 1 April 1650, prob. 12 July following. (108 Pembroke).	
Giles Poyntz of Yarnscombe, Devon. Will dated 30 Aug. 1714, prob. 26 Aug. 1715. (163 Fagg). Bur. ⁶ 24 May 1715. M.I.		Ann, dau. of ... , proved her husband's and son Giles' will.		John Poyntz of Dunster, &c. named in father's will. Bur. ¹ Will dated 2 Nov. 1751, prob. 13 Nov. 1759. (370 Arran).		Philip Poyntz, named in brother Robert's will and in father's and mother's, of Green-town, par. of Ashbrittle, Som. mar. cir. Died 1646. Will dated 16 July 1645, prob. 10 May 1646 (59 Twisse).	
Mary Poyntz, born 1698, mar. Luke Clarke of London. Died 19 Sep. 1726, aged 31. Bur. ¹ M.I.		Edward, bur. ² 22 Dec. 1732, named in his father's will.		Alice Poyntz, bap. ² 19 Mar. 1609, named in uncle Robert's will.		Elizabeth, bap. ⁴ 7 Jan. 1616-7, mar. ... Pyne.	
John Poyntz, a minor in 1714, named in his father's will.		Giles Poyntz, born 25, bap. ¹ 29 May 1701. Bur. ¹ 30 May 1731. M.I. Admo. to John Newcombe and Robert Lawe creditors. Unmar.		Elizabeth, born 1694. Died unmar. 24 & bur. ¹ 29 May 1729, aged 35. M.I. Admo. not taken out until 1759.		Mary Poyntz, mar. Tristram Woode, son of Tristram Woode of Kittesford, Som.	
Temperance, bap. ⁶ 10 Ap. 1699, mar. ... Long, alive in 1751.		Ann Poyntz, named in father's will.		Ann Poyntz, named in father's will.		Elizabeth, bap. ² 28 Feb. 1611-12. Died at Braunton 15 and bur. ² 17 July 1677.	
Frances, bap. ⁶ 27 Sep. 1706, alive 1751, unmarried.		Prudence, born 1697. Died 3 and bur. ¹ 5 June 1716, aged 15. M.I.		Ann Poyntz, mar. ... Hill, living 1751.		Giles Poyntz, born 1698, mar. Luke Clarke of London. Died 19 Sep. 1726, aged 31. Bur. ¹ M.I.	
Christian, bap. ⁶ 4 Nov. 1703, bur. ¹ 2 Sept. 1749.		Ann Poyntz, mar. ... Hill, living 1751.		Ann Poyntz, mar. ... Hill, living 1751.		Ann Poyntz, mar. ... Hill, living 1751.	

¹ At Dunster.² At Arlington.³ In Leigh Chapel.⁴ At Ashbrittle⁵ At Old Cleeve.⁶ At Yarnscombe.

POYNTZ OF VERSCHORTEN IN HOLLAND.

The Right Honourable Stephen Poyntz, doubtless prompted by the uncertainty which then prevailed as to the descent of his branch of the family (see ante pp. 143-145), appears to have evinced a great desire to trace out all persons bearing the family name, and having heard of a branch which appears to have settled in Holland, he writes to one Solomon Poyntz for information, and the letters written by the latter are here translated.

From Solomon Poyntz in Holland to the R^t Hon^{ble} Stephen Poyntz.

Sir,

I have received a letter from His Excellency the Ambassador which informs me, that your Excellency, having read my name in a Book, wishes to know if we are descended from the same ancestry; on which point I have the honour to reply that we are descended from father to son in direct line from Hugh Poyntz, Lord of Tokington, who married the daughter of Lord Bardolfe. My great grandfather Thomas Poyntz, who was of the family of Acton, & his mother of that of North Ockenden, lost his father in his youth after which he entered the Army, without the knowledge of his mother, and came into this country with the English Auxiliary Troops in the service of Holland, where he married Gloria Croevolt, a young lady of noble family in the Netherlands. He was Major General and Colonel of a Regiment of Infantry. Being Commandant at Rhynberk in 1606 he was wounded & died of his wound, leaving my grandfather, his only child, at the age of six years. He remained in Holland where he was educated. My great grandmother, who died at the age of 92 years, has related many particulars to her descendants, amongst others that she had heard her husband speak of his illustrious family, & relationship with the Duke of Ormond & others, also about large estates, but that all had been lost by his absence & unfortunate death. I have in my hand a letter in English from M^r W^m Greage 27 Aug^t 1599, written to my great grandfather which contains the following lines. "The last time that I saw your mother was at the House of Mrs. Stafford. her near relation, with whom she was living. She believed you dead, having received no news of you, nor knowing where to enquire for any, she is now dead having left behind her a considerable sum of money & property of some value, but all is lost by your absence." I also have letters from Daniel Poyntz & from John Morice written from London, North Ockenden, etc. to their cousin Thomas Poyntz my great grandfather. Your Excellency can thus see that we are of English origin & apparently of the same family as y^r Excellency. Especially if our arms correspond, I send you crest, a copy of them. I should be glad to know if there [are] any people of

distinction of the same family left in England. Here there only remain myself & my brother, both bachelors. We have studied the Law, I am Bailiff of Verschorton & other villages & he is Secretary. Having seen in the Gazette that your Excellency is appointed Ambassador to the Court of Sweden & believing that you will pass through Holland on your way there, I beg to offer you my services & respectful compliments.

& remain, Sir

Verschorton 27 July
(about 1720 to 25).

Y^r most humble servant,
S. POYNTZ.

[2nd Letter.]

11 Sep^r 1723.

Sir,

I find of a certainty that we belong to the same family and I am much obliged by the honour you do me in letting me know what members of our family are still alive. History says the family is originally Norman & Dugdale mentions in his peerage of England that there was a Walter Ponz Lord of Clifford in Hereford, who had 3 children in the time of William the Conqueror the eldest retained the name of Clifford, from whom are descended the Earls of Cumberland & the others have retained the name of Ponz & have established themselves at Gloucester. We have a tradition that at the time when my great grandfather arrived in Holland, Lord Gilpin was English Ambassador at the Republic who married his Aunt Maria Poyntz¹—that Sydenham Poyntz, your great Uncle, had forsaken Cromwell's party & joined himself to King Charles & after having lost the last Royalist battle, he took flight, disguised as a woman & came to my grandfather at Rotterdam where he stayed a while. After Cromwell's death he returned with the king to England & was made Governor of Antigua, in America. In recognition of the kindness received from my grandfather, he wished to take his eldest son with him to England, but my grandfather refused his consent on account of the Boy's youth. If we had the genealogical tree, with all its branches we could then see in what degree we are related. My grandfather had the genealogy from father to son, with their Wives & Coat of Arms from Hugo Poyntz up to his grandfather of Acton, and his grandmother of North Ockenden—that of Acton was lent to some one & never returned. I send you that of North Ockenden, with its Coats of Arms up to the first Poyntz of North Ockenden. I have ordered a copy to be made of my great grandfather's portrait by a clever painter, in order to send it to you. The words of our [*motto*] are "Crainte refrainte." I do not know if my Ancestor adopted them in Holland, or whether we had the motto from England. If you return by Holland I hope you will stay with me, & if there is anything in this country of use to you, pray order it from one who is, with every respect, Sir,

Your most humble servant

My brother wishes to send you his respects.

S. POYNTZ.

¹ We must confess ourselves entirely unacquainted with the parties to this alliance.

[3rd Letter.]

Verschorten, Jan. 16, 1728.

Sir,

I have heard with great pleasure that you have recovered from your long illness & wish you a Continuance of good health. I have just received the portrait of my great grandfather, Thomas Poyntz of Acton & have sent it to Amsterdam for embarkation to Stockholm. I could have redeemed my promise sooner but for the slowness of the painter. If you don't find in it the perfection of good painting, you may rest assured [it] is an exact copy of the original. Pray spare yourself the trouble of sending me a note of exchange for its cost, but keep this copy as a mark of my affection & a renewal of our acquaintance & relationship. I should much like to have a copy of the Poyntz' of Acton Genealogy, which we have lost. Could you have it copied for me in England? I think your relative was mistaken in writing to you that your great Uncle Major General Sydenham Poyntz had married in Holland. I have always heard he was a Bachelor. Perhaps my Ancestor Major-General Thomas Poyntz was meant. The news of us that you received through your eldest brother came by the hand of Mr. Greenwood one of y^c clergy, who has been visiting his brother Greenwood in Holland. This latter lives in the country here & is a great friend of mine. My brother & I unite in desiring our compliments to Mons. y^r brother. We wish you all prosperity—and may the Lord grant you His most precious benefits, & all the happiness you can desire, not only in the present New Year, but in, and during many more to come.

I am Sir y^r most sincere & humble servant,

S. POYNTZ.

[4th Letter.]

Verschooten, 14 May, 1734.

Sir,

I have been agreeably surprised by the visit, tho' short, of your nephews, the two Mr. Poyntz, who delivered me your letter apprising me of the birth of your son, thro' y^r marriage with the neice of the Earl of Peterboro' which news gave me great pleasure. I have the honor, Sir, to congratulate you upon this first fruit of your marriage, hoping that it may be followed by other prosperities, & desirable blessings. I should be glad to know the reason why the possessor of North Ockenden is obliged always to take the name of Poyntz, & conjecture that perhaps it has arisen from a Poyntz, who died childless, having attached this proviso to his heirs in order to preserve the name. But however this may be, I approve highly of your project of buying this estate, if possible. If it is in my power Sir, in this country to render you any service, I shall be much honored in executing your orders, assuring you Sir, that I shall always heartily remain

Y^r obedient & humble servant

S. POYNTZ,

I beg you will make my comp^{ts} to your dear wife & also to y^r mother & assure them of my humble respect.

N²

We are quite unable to identify Thomas, the alleged great-grandfather of Mr. Solomon Poyntz and his brother, nor have we any trace of an alliance, at any time, between the family of Poyntz of Iron Acton, and that of Ockenden. The only Thomas Poyntz of the Acton branch, which would at all fit in respect to date, would be Thomas, the son of Matthew Poyntz of Alderley, by Elizabeth Wild (see ante pp. 131, 132) born 1571, and therefore somewhat too young to embark with the Auxiliary forces sent over to Holland in 1585 under the Earl of Leicester, and not of sufficiently mature age to become Commandant of Rhynberk in 1606. Besides, we have a complete knowledge of this Thomas, who was of Bencombe in Uley, and attested the pedigree of his family at the Heralds' Visitation of Gloucestershire in 1623. It is, however, very probable that the gentleman in question was, in some way, descended from the Poyntzs of Iron Acton, who, at the time of the great-grandfather of Solomon Poyntz, were, as we have seen, in embarrassed circumstances, and a younger son of the name of Thomas may have settled in Holland and been lost sight of at home. The match, however, with the family of Poyntz of Ockenden, with our present information, is untenable.

Mr. Solomon Poyntz and his brother, setting aside their tradition of the origin of their branch, may possibly have been descended from Sir Sydenham Poyntz, supposing Sir Sydenham to have had children (see ante p. 184) or from Thomas, brother of Sir Sydenham, named by Aubrey (ante p. 137) of whom we have no other trace.



Portrait of General Deane.



GIVEN under 3 Hands and Seals

Ri Deane



APPENDIX.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF MAJOR-GENERAL AND ADMIRAL RICHARD DEANE.

In closing the Memoir of the Family of Poyntz, we propose to give a slight sketch of the life of a very remarkable man, very closely allied to the Poyntz Family, which we think will be of interest. We hesitate to class him among the WORTHIES of GLOUCESTERSHIRE, but he was certainly one of the most able men the County has produced. This was Richard Deane, the Regicide, whose niece Jane Monteage, William Poyntz, of Benefield, married as his second wife (see Ante pp. 206, 226). It is remarkable that nothing was known of the origin and family of this, in his time, very prominent man until a few years ago, when it was brought to light, as far as practicable, by the Rev. John Bathurst Deane, who, in a most interesting volume, with careful consideration, great impartiality and genealogical skill, wrote a Memoir of him, to which, in what we are about to write, we are greatly indebted.¹

We shall abstain from entering into the question of the family and descent of Richard Deane. This has been established in the work we have cited. Suffice it to say that he was the eldest son of Edward Deane, of Farmcot in Temple Guyting, co. Gloucester, by his second wife Ann Waas, or Wase, a lady of Buckinghamshire. Edward Deane would not appear himself to have been of higher degree than a Yeoman, but the annexed pedigree will shew that through his mother he inherited gentle blood. He had by his two wives thirteen children, and it is not surprising that some of his sons would have, in great measure, to shift for themselves; and consequently from the fact of Richard Deane possessing some knowledge of maritime affairs we conclude that he went to Sea.

We first hear of Richard Deane as subaltern of Artillery, for which he is believed to have volunteered on the breaking out of the Civil War; and in the remodelling of the Army after the passing of the Self Denying Ordinance he was promoted to the rank of Captain, and made Controller of the Ordnance, a post equivalent to a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army. In this office he distinguished himself in various battles and sieges: *e.g.*, at Langport, Sherborne Castle, Bridgwater, and Bristol. Joshua says that "in the reduction of Sherborne Castle, as elsewhere, the dexterity, industry and resolution of Captain Deane, Comptroller

¹ The Life of Richard Deane, Major-General and General at Sea in the Service of the Commonwealth, and one of the Commissioners of the High Court of Justice appointed for the trial of King Charles I., by John Bathurst Deane, M.A. F.S.A. Fellow of Pembroke College, Cambridge, &c., &c. 1870.

of the Ordnance deserves to be had in remembrance." Hitherto he had not been entrusted with any separate command, but when it was determined to make an attempt to seize Powderham Castle as a prelude to the capture of Exeter, Captain Deane was selected to command the little force sent across the river Exe from Nutwell to surprise the Castle. Landing on the right bank of the river, here a mile wide, Deane found that the Castle had received reinforcements, and he therefore took possession of the Church. A strong sally from the Castle attempted to dislodge him. Desperate fighting ensued, but Deane succeeded in holding the Church two nights, notwithstanding the extreme frost and snow then prevailing caused the soldiers great suffering. It is worthy of remark that, unlike many of the fanatics of the party, he suffered no injury to be committed to the monuments or other portions of the Church beyond what was unavoidable. He afterwards distinguished himself at the capture of Dartmouth, and was one of the Commissioners who signed the capitulation of Fowey and dictated the terms for the capitulation of Truro on the 14th March 1645-6, which closed the campaign in the West. The surrender of the King to the Scots Army on the 5th May following, ended the war between the King and the Parliament.

As might naturally have been anticipated, dissensions soon arose between the Parliament and the Army as to the disposal of the prey, for the possession of the King's person would give a great moral influence to the party holding it. In the beginning of 1647 what was called a HUMBLE REMONSTRANCE was made by the Army to the Parliament, in which the following words occur:—"We do clearly profess that we cannot see how there can be any peace to the Kingdom, firm and lasting, without a due consideration of provision for the rights, quiet, and immunity of His Majesty, his Royal Family, and his late partizans." What these words implied in the minds of the writers it is difficult to say, but it is a remarkable fact that of the twenty Field Officers who signed the Remonstrance, sixteen, including Richard Deane, within two years signed the death-warrant of the King. On the 30th of the same month, upon the payment of £200,000, whereof it is said £30,000 fell to the share of the Marquis of Hamilton alone, the Scots surrendered the King's person to the English Parliament.

The events following upon this are matters of general history, and we propose only to touch upon them so far as they affect personally the subject of our memoir. The relations between the Parliament and the Army, or in other words, between the Presbyterians and Independents, became very strained, each faction endeavouring to suppress the other. Cromwell was the principal leader of the Independent faction, and Deane was regarded, and rightly, as a resolute and formidable instrument, ready and willing to carry out Cromwell's measures. Parliament therefore sought means of removing them from the scene of agitation. Accordingly Cromwell was appointed Lord General of the Forces in Ireland, and Deane, from Controller of Ordnance in the Army of Fairfax, was appointed Lieutenant of the Artillery in Ireland, which made him second in command under Cromwell. Both officers, however, declined the honourable offices conferred upon them. They preferred watching the course of events at home. Cromwell became, nominally, second in command to Fairfax, and Deane, Adjutant General of the Army.

The insolent seizure of the King by Cornet Joyce at the instance of Cromwell, which

gave the Army the advantage of the King's person, need only be alluded to, and we shall not enter upon the disgraceful incidents of the faction quarrels, which eventually led to Pride's Purge and the supremacy of the Independents; nor is it necessary to advert to the rising of the Royalists in 1648, and the second Civil War, except that it sealed the fate of the King. The Army demanded that the King should be brought to trial, and on 6th October, 1648, *Pride's purge* was applied to parliament, and all those in any way favourable to the King's Cause were excluded. The House now was reduced to 50 members, who, in the name of *Parliament*, committed all the subsequent atrocities. Meanwhile the arrears of pay due to the Soldiers remained unpaid, and Fairfax threatened if the contribution from the City were not paid "*immediately, he would send Colonel Deane to fetch it.*" The following day Colonel, now Major General, Deane's and other Regiments marched into the City and demanded money from the Committee sitting at Weavers' Hall, who received the assessments of the City for public purposes, including the pay of the troops. The Committee refused to give it up on the order of the Lord General and the *reformed* House of Commons, when the treasure, amounting to £30,000, was seized but no other excesses were committed.

Events were now marching with rapid strides. Cromwell on the 18th December, took Deane to a private meeting at the Rolls to discuss the question of the Settlement of the Kingdom. It was proposed to dethrone the King, and raise the young Duke of Gloucester (who was then just over eight years of age and in their power) to the throne, but Cromwell took exception to it and nothing was done. A further meeting was held on the 21st by the same parties with a like result; and Sir Thos. Widrington, Keeper of the Great Seal, and Whitelocke, who acted as Secretary, were ordered to draw up some heads of discourse for the following day, but their suggestions failed to satisfy Cromwell. He probably expected that he would be invited to take upon himself the government of the Kingdom, but the time was not quite ripe and the matter was postponed. It appears from the evidence of Rushworth before the House of Lords in 1661, that as early as the 26th November, the trial of the King was decided upon by some of the principal Officers of the Army, and that Deane and Ireton were foremost among those who urged it. It is clear that Deane was one of the few Officers who were admitted to the confidence of Cromwell, and who were prepared to assist in carrying out his schemes. In the meantime the King had been removed from Carisbrook to Hurst, from Hurst to Windsor, and finally from Windsor to St. James'.

Then followed the most stupendous event that ever occurred in English history, at that time unparalleled in its atrocity, or in the results which flowed from it, in any European nation—the pretended trial and pre-determined murder of the King. In this great crime Richard Deane took an active part from its inception to its perpetration. Though determined upon by the Council of Officers as above stated, the question of the trial was not brought before the House until the 28th of December, and on the 6th January it was resolved that a High Court of Justice should be constituted for the purpose of *trying the King*. One hundred and thirty Commissioners were named on this Court, of whom twenty were to form a quorum, but of those fifty-five refused or neglected to take their

seats, among whom was Algernon Sydney who attended the first meeting, and upon the Decree for the trial being read opposed it, urging as his reasons 1st "that the King could not be tried by any Court, and 2nd, that no man could be legally tried by that Court." Cromwell cut his argument short by saying: "I tell you that we will cut off his head with the Crown upon it."

There were several preliminary meetings held at which there was a difficulty in getting the members to attend. At length they were summoned by Warrant, which even seems to have failed in securing their presence. The first formal meeting took place on the 20th, and was continued on the 22nd, 23rd and 27th. Richard Deane was present in his place on each day, and arose in token of assent when the so-called sentence was pronounced. Deane was one of the most active of the Regicides. He was one of the Committee to examine witnesses previous to their appearance in Court, he signed the Warrant for the King's execution in a steady bold hand, and he was one of the Committee of five Colonels appointed to consider the time and place. They recommended the open street before Whitehall, and it was ordered on the 29th that the fearful tragedy should be consummated there on the following day, and that a Warrant should be prepared accordingly.

The late Mr. W. J. Thoms, a careful and critical student of history, has directed attention to this very remarkable document, pointing out its gross inaccuracy and irregularity, and the difficulties which appear to have arisen in obtaining the signatures of some of the Commissioners, but we must not follow him into the details though they are highly interesting¹.

The services which Richard Deane had rendered the State were considered so important that on the 1st March following the King's death he was commissioned as one of the three Generals at Sea, jointly with Blake and Popham. Their powers and authority were very extensive² being the same as those of a Lord High Admiral. The Navy at this time was in a very deplorable condition, but through the vigorous exertions of the Generals it was rapidly improved. They were liberally paid, each received £3 a day. Deane's station extended from Portsmouth to Milford Haven. On 2nd August, he entertained the Judges of Assize on the Western Circuit, at Plymouth, on board his flag ship, "where they had much cheer and welcome." Immediately afterwards he returned to Milford Haven, and conveyed Cromwell's and Ireton's Army to Ireland in 100 ships.

We have seen that in 1646 he was appointed "Lieutenant of Artillery in Ireland," which in the then circumstances he declined, but it is believed that he was now called upon by Cromwell to take up this appointment, and accompany him in his Irish Campaign. There does not, however, appear to be any direct evidence of this, and he was back again at Milford Haven on the 27th October, but he became very ill in consequence of Irish fever. He returned to Portsmouth in February 1649-50, to receive a renewal of his Commission as one of the Generals at Sea. He shewed himself very energetic in Naval reform, continually writing to the Commissioners of the Admiralty urging the removal of some abuse or the making of some improvement.

¹ See Notes and Queries July, 1872.

² See Ordinances of the Parliament 24th and 27th February, 1649. State Papers, Dom., Commonwealth vol. i.

In 1650 War broke out with Scotland. The Scottish Parliament had proclaimed Charles II. King, and communicated the fact to him at Breda. The Marquis of Montrose was sent over with some foreign troops. The Scots, however, were not prepared to receive an enemy of the Solemn League and Covenant, and he was betrayed and executed at Edinburgh. This crime is said to have been instigated by the Marquis of Argyll, from motives of private revenge. Fairfax refused to serve against the Scots, and Cromwell was hastily sent for from Ireland to assume the Command. On the 3rd September, the great battle of Dunbar was gained, and Scotland for the time was prostrate. She, however, soon recovered and threatened Cromwell's Army stationed at Leith and suffering from want of supplies. General Deane, however, opportunely arrived on the 29th March with his Fleet, in which he had embarked his own regiment of Foot and large supplies of Munitions of War. Moreover, he brought twenty-seven large flat-bottomed boats for the transport of troops across the Frith of Forth into Fife, and for use in other waters in the indented coast of Scotland, which were of the greatest value.

On the 6th May Cromwell re-organised his staff. Deane was added as a Major-General of the Army, Monk continuing as Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance, thus superseding his senior Officer.¹ We cannot follow the subject of our Memoir through all the details of this war in which he took a conspicuous part. The Scots out-generalled Cromwell and invaded England, marching day and night, regardless of rest or food, and succeeded in reaching Worcester where King Charles had set up his standard. Cromwell followed as rapidly as he could and appeared in sight of Worcester with 30,000 men, whilst the King had scarcely more than half that force. The 3rd of September, the anniversary of the battle of Dunbar, was chosen for the day of battle. Both parties fought with undaunted valour, but Cromwell was the victor. To this victory the skill and courage of Deane greatly contributed. He fought his way up to the walls against Massey, with a resolution which no enemy could withstand, "beating them," according to Cromwell's dispatch, from hedge to hedge. The Victory was complete, 10,000 prisoners were taken, with the the Royal Standard and 118 colours, and all the King's baggage and personal effects. He himself escaped with merely the clothes upon his back and the horse upon which he rode.

The state of affairs in Scotland where General Monk commanded the troops, was not at all satisfactory to Cromwell, and he determined to relieve the General, and, if possible, without giving him offence. With this object he obtained the appointment of a Commission of Eight persons of whom Lieut-General Lambert was Chief, and Deane second in Command. General Monk was on the Commission but was virtually deposed from his authority. Lambert opened the Commission at Edinburgh on 6th December, 1650, but the death of Ireton at this juncture led to his recal to assume the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland, and thereupon the Presidency of the commission in Scotland, together with the command of the troops, devolved upon General Deane, who still retained his office as one of the Generals at Sea.

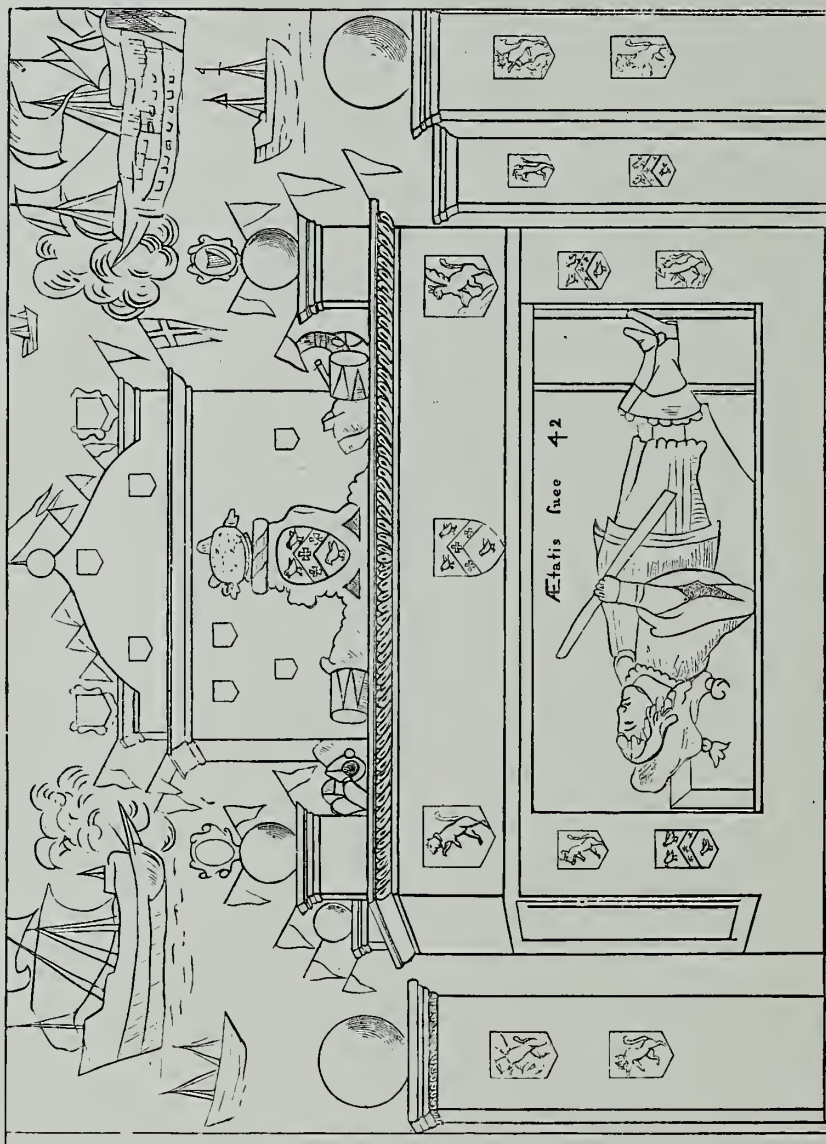
¹ The order of rank was the same then as it is now. But a *Major-General of the Army* was third in command over all mere *Lieutenant-Generals* and next to the *Lieutenant General of the Army* who was Second only to the *Lord-General*.

This was a service of much difficulty, requiring great discretion and delicacy of treatment, exceeding in responsibility the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland, for the Chief Commissioner, besides his diplomatic and Civil functions, was Commander in Chief of the troops and Naval Commander throughout Scotland. So important and delicate was this mission considered that the instructions to the Commissioners were forbidden by Parliament to be entered on the Journal. The supercession of Monk by a Junior Officer was now so palpable that he withdrew on a plea of ill health.

The policy exercised by General Deane was firm and conciliatory. He introduced great reforms in the administration of Justice, especially with regard to persecution of Witches, a cruelty to which the Scottish Kirk was greatly prone. The most important business he achieved was, however, his treaty with the Marquis of Argyll for the settlement of the Country. Major Salwey was joined with Deane in this negotiation, because, as stated by Heath, Deane was not mercurial enough to work it with the Scot. "Mercury, the God of Eloquence had not been propitious to the man of action. He was a plain-spoken straight-forward soldier, and the result of the negotiation was such as to be eminently satisfactory to Parliament, and on the 14th May the thanks of the House were voted to Major-General Deane, and the Speaker was ordered to convey them to him. We must not, however, linger over the arduous services of General Deane in securing the pacification of Scotland, the decision and vigour of whose administration inaugurated the Golden Age in North Britain. Sir Walter Scott assigns the whole merit of the great work, at this time done in Scotland, to Cromwell. He was doubtless the originator of the Policy, and his was the faculty of discerning the fittest instruments to carry it out. Deane was selected as this instrument, and well did he justify his selection. To his tact and energy of character was the success due, to Deane alone was the credit accorded, and Deane only received the thanks of Parliament.

Hardly had the pacification of Scotland been completed when a War broke out with the Dutch Republic. Upon the circumstances which led to this war we shall not enter. We have already referred to the inefficient condition of the English Navy on the death of the King and to the energy displayed by the Generals at Sea in its reformation. Much had been done in this direction, still it was much inferior to the Navy of Holland, especially under the command of such an Admiral as Tromp. Meanwhile Popham had died and the vacancy in the number of the Admirals at Sea was filled by Monk, who was placed junior to Deane. Though doubtless much galled Monk made no complaint, though possibly he treasured up the slight he had suffered. The Generals at Sea now consisted of Blake, Deane and Monk. They had the Joint Command of the Fleet with the pay of £3 a day each whilst in Commission, the decision of any two being imperative on the third.

We shall abstain from any attempt to relate the incidents of the War down to the end of May 1653, merely alluding, *en passant*, to the defeat of Admiral Blake on the 29th November, 1652, through the "backwardness" of his Captains, by Admiral Tromp with a greatly superior force. Blake was so mortified at this mischance, that he tendered his resignation which was not accepted. Strenuous efforts were immediately made to remedy



Funeral Car of General Deane.

this disaster, and in a short time Blake had under his command a Fleet of three times its former strength, and had, moreover, the assistance of Deane and Monk.

Blake and Deane embarked in the same ship. The latter was accompanied by his brother-in-law as his Secretary. This was Dru Sparrow, who had recently married Jane, Deane's youngest sister. This gentleman was immediately appointed by Blake Secretary to the Admirals, but he was killed in action within three weeks in the sanguinary battle off Portland.

We now come down to the great battle off the North Foreland. The three English Admirals were all together on board the "*Resolution*," and, adopting the tactics of General Deane, charged through Tromp's division. In this movement the *Resolution* became surrounded by sixteen Ships. The opportune arrival of the Vice-Admiral and his supports rescued the ship from destruction, but not before the fatal shot was fired which deprived "the thrice worthy Richard Deane" of his life. He fell, sword in hand, in the bow of the ship at the first broadside, by a cannon ball which struck him in the side as he was brandishing his sword, and encouraging his men to follow him in boarding Admiral Tromp's ship. The victory of the English was most complete though not without severe loss. Within a month the gallant Tromp was also slain.

Immediately after the victory, the remains of General Deane were conveyed to Gravesend to await the orders of the Council of State. These were quickly received. It was decreed that he should receive a public funeral in Westminster Abbey upon the same scale as Ireton, Cromwell's son-in-law and Lord Deputy of Ireland, who was thought to be entitled to the distinction of a royal pageant for the reason that he had governed a Kingdom. Deane also had governed a Kingdom and died in arms for his country; and his funeral was ordered to be conducted in accordance with his rank and renown.

The body of the deceased General was brought in a funeral barge from Gravesend to Westminster, attended by many barges and boats in mourning equipage, and many hundreds of shots were discharged as it passed, from ships and from the tower, &c.¹ The body was received at the west door of the Abbey by the great Officers of State Cromwell himself being also present, and was borne by a select party of soldiers to Henry VII's Chapel, and there deposited in one of the royal vaults which already contained the remains of the Earl of Essex, of Popham, and of Ireton.

The Official programme of General Deane's funeral is not traced to be extant but his fellow General at Sea was directed to be buried "in such sort as was done for the funeral of General Deane." A memorandum of the intended procession at Blake's funeral remains in the British Museum, and Mr. Deane justly concludes that this document is a copy of that of General Deane, making allowance for a little variation in some personal details. There exist, however, two contemporary elegiac memorials written on his death, and printed on broadside, each being surmounted by a rough engraving of the hearse which conveyed the body of General Deane from Gravesend to Westminster. The hearse was preceded by the banner of his own Arms: ar. on a chevron Gu. between three ravens ppr. three crosses crosslet or. Crest:—On a mound vert a tortoise displayed or.

¹ Whitelock's Memorials.

These were the arms of Sir Richard Deane, Knight, Lord Mayor of London, and of Henry Deane, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1501-3. We do not, however, know that General Deane's relationship to either of those personages has ever been traced. The hearse and canopy exhibit a shield of the arms of Deane as above, and two other shields:—1, a lion rampant and 2, a griffin segreant attacking a Knight in armour complete lying on his back.¹ (Grimsditch.) The lion rampant Mr. Deane supposes are the Arms of Cromwell and infers that there was a family connection between the Cromwells of Huntingdon and the Deanes of Guyting Poher, and that these arms indicate a match between Cromwell and Grimsditch. He further states the probability that the last mentioned are the Arms of Mary the wife of Richard Deane. This conjecture is quite correct; Richard Deane married at the Temple Church, London, 21st May, 1647, Mary daughter of John Grimsditch, of Knottingley co. York, Esq. She survived him and re-married at St. Bartholomew the Great, London, 2nd. January, 1654-5 Colonel John Salmen.² There were doubtless two corresponding shields on the other side of the hearse, representing Wase and Wickham, Richard Deane's mother and grand-mother.

The funeral took place on the 24th June, and from the 2nd June, the day following the General's death to that of the funeral, the parliament allowed £100 a day to his widow and children, both infants and both girls, and subsequently made them a grant of land worth £600 a year.

The body of Richard Deane rested seven years where first interred in the Royal Vault in Henry VII's Chapel, when, with those of Blake and others there interred, it was ordered to be removed, and buried in the Churchyard adjoining, and there is no evidence that it was treated with dishonour or indignity.

General Deane made his Will on the 31st March, 1653, in which he names his wife Mary Deane and Mrs. Jane Deane his mother, his sister Jane Sparrow, and his daughters Mary and Hannah Deane. And makes William Robinson, of London, Esq., and his cousin Capt. Richard Deane trustees for his children, in the event of the re-marriage or death of his relict Mary Deane. (335 Alchin.)

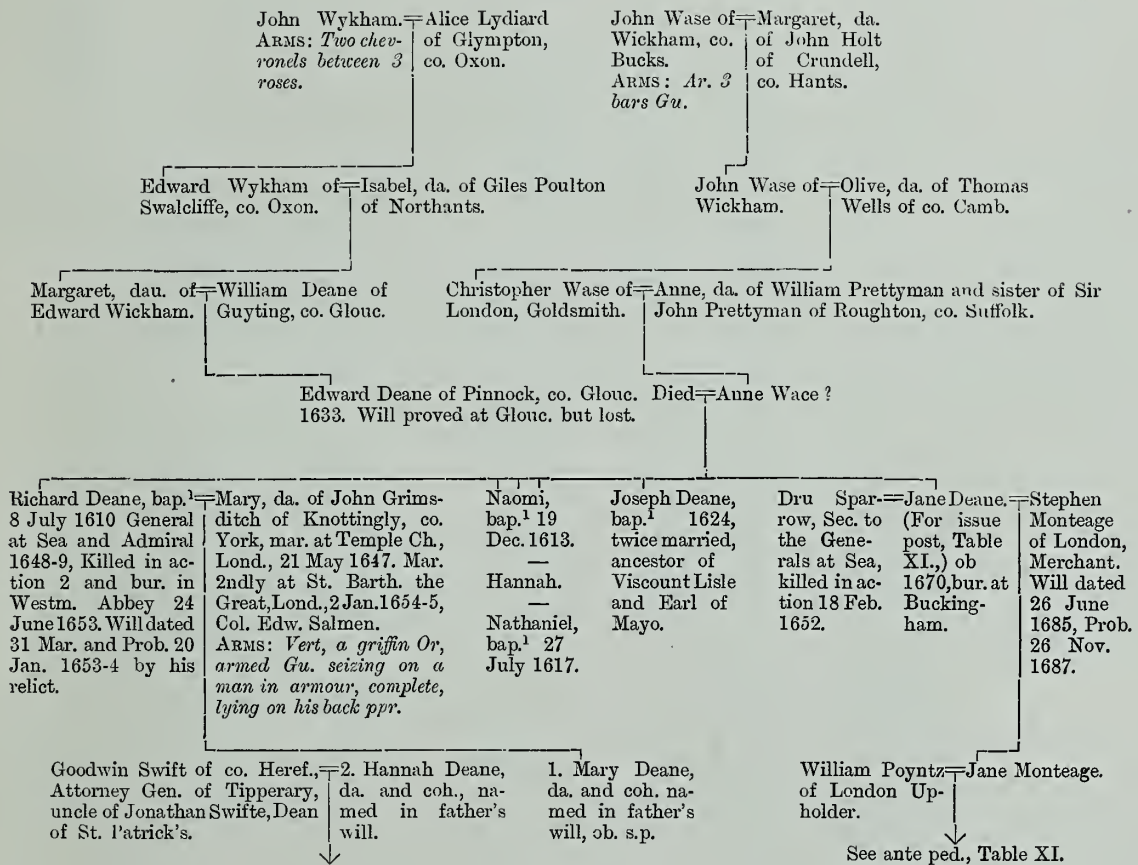
Richard Deane appears to have been a straight-forward, honest and able man. We know of no crime that can be alleged against him saving the misguided part he took against his King. Mr. Deane sums up his character thus: "At a period of remarkable energy he rose, by force of his own genius and valour, from the obscure condition of a younger son of a country gentleman of small means and large family, to the rank of a General and Admiral, uniformly successful on land and sea, and of an able administrator of the Civil Government of a distracted Kingdom, which he pacified and left in peace and prosperity. In the field or in the council he was the trusted comrade of Oliver Cromwell, which is in itself no small testimonial to his talents, for they were not men of inferior minds whom that shrewd observer of human nature selected for important posts and duties."

¹ Vert a Griffin or armed Gu. seizing on a man in armour complete, lying on his back, ppr.

² Col. Chester's Registers of Westminster Abbey (Harl. Soc.)

PEDIGREE OF DEANE OF GUYTING POHER,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

TABLE XV.



¹ At Guyting Poher.

INDEX TO SUBJECTS.

Note.—That in this and the following Indices no attempt is made to distinguish the different modes of spelling the same names, and that one reference only is given, notwithstanding a name may occur more than once on the same page.

- Agricultural products, value of, 25, 51
 Alderley, Alnshouse at, 121
 Amelia Sophia Eleanora, Princess, Notices of her, 212, 212 n., 213
 Armagh, Archb. of, 104, 111
 ARMS, Grant of, to Admiral Poyntz 153
 Which Poyntz of Cowdray was entitled to quarter, 228—230
 Acton, 55, 62 n., 66 n., 94, 131, 158, 200
 Arragon. 66 n.
 Baldwin, 47
 Bardolph, 28, 47, 200
 Basset, 28, 47, 200
 Beauchamp, 66 n., 94, 131, 157, 200
 Beaulx de, 66 n., 94, 131, 157, 200
 Buckworth, 102 n., 111
 Calva, 47
 Castile and Leon, 66 n.
 Cantelupe, 28, 47
 Clanvowe, 66 n., 94, 131, 158, 200
 Cromwell, 292
 Deane, 291, 292
 Deincourt, 47
 Echingham, 158, 200
 Fitz Alan, Brian, 17
 Fitz Nichol, 62 n., 66 n., 94, 131, 157, 200
 Grimsditch, 292
 Henry VIII, King, 66 n.
 Kitsford, 158, 200
 Malet, 28, 47, 200
 Malmaynes, 158, 200
 Newdigate, 158, 200
 Perth, 47
 Poyntz, 28, 35, 47, 55 n., 62 n., 66 n., 94, 102 n., 131, 143, 200, 207
 Poyntz of Havant, 153, 158
 Poyntz Hugh, 17
 Poyntz Nicholas, 17, 55
 St. Paul, 66 n., 94, 131, 157, 200
 Scales, 94, 131, 157, 200
 Septfontain, 47
 Sibelles, 35
 Sydenham, 158, 200
 Wase, or Waas, 292
 Wickham, 292
 Wydvile, 66 n., 94, 131, 200
 Zouche, 28, 47
 Unknown, 47, 94, 131, 158, 200
 Army, General disbandment of, ordered, 170, resisted by, *ib.*, Acts of the Adjutors, 171, Mutiny, 172
 Augustin St., Abbot and Convent of, 9; 28
 Battle Abbey Roll, 3, 5
 Berkeley Contentions respecting the Manor of Mangotsfield, 73, 74
 Billaments, meaning of, 34 n.
 Bognor, terrible accident by drowning at, 224
 Briavels St., Castle, Constables of, 62
 Brokenbury Chantry, 58
 Bynedon, Abbot of, 20
 Caerlaverock, siege of, 17, Banner of Poyntz displayed at, *ib.*, Contention betw. Nich. Poyntz and Brian Fitz Alan as to Arms, *ib.*
 Cambay, Congress at, 209
 Canterbury, Archb. of, 20, 52, 211, 213, 214, 255, 279
 Chantries, 55, 58, 99
 Charles I. K. marches from Raglau to Chester, 162, sends encouragement to Byron, *ib.*, defeated by Poyntz before Chester 163, quits Newark on approach of Poyntz, falls back upon Oxford, 166., orders surrender of Newark, 168, gives himself up to the Scots, *ib.*, the Scots surrendered him to Parliament, 286, seized by Joyce, *ib.*, conspiracy for his death, 287, removal to London, *ib.*, his pretended trial, *ib.*
 Charles II. K. proclaimed in Edinburgh, 289, enters England, *ib.*, battle of Worcester, *ib.*, his defeat and flight, *ib.*
 Chester menaced by the Parl. Army, 162, The King arrives to support it, *ib.*, out-works taken, *ib.*, the King's forces defeated before, 163
 Church vestments pawned, 60
 Cleeve, Abbot and Convent of, 265
 Clifford, A. his Origin of the Poyntz family, 1, 2
 Cory-Malet, Barony of, devolved of Hawisia wife of Hugh Poyntz 10, Appraisement of goods of Nicholas Poyntz at, 25, Extent of, 25, 26, 27, 28
 "Coterellas," meaning of, 26 n.
 Cowdray, The Curse of, 222, 223
 Cowdray House destroyed by fire, 223
 Deane Jane, 285, marries Dru Sparrow, 291. Table of her descendants, 294
 Deane, Major-General Richard, sketch of his Life, 285-294, his parentage and descent, 285, one of the Commissioners to try the King, 288, his activity therein, *ib.*, appointed General at Sea, 288, exertions to improve the Navy, *ib.*, Commissioner for the Administration of Scotland, 289, appointed Major General Army, 289, Principal Commissioner in Scotland, 290, effects pacification of the Country, *ib.*, thanked by Parliament, *ib.*, in joint command of the fleet in war against the Dutch, *ib.*, his death, 291, his funeral in Westminster Abbey, *ib.*, his Arms, 291, Body removed from the Royal Vault, 292, his character, *ib.*
 Death, very remarkable, 166
 Documents, remarkable forgery and production of, 43, 44
 Dover Castle, Lieut. of, 37

- Dover Harbour, Improvement of, by Ferdinando Poyntz, 36, 37
 Dover, Mayors of, 37
 Dress, Bridal, 217
 Dromore, Bp. of, 104
 Dunbar, battle of, 16
 Dutch Republic, war with, 290, defeat of Admiral Blake, *ib.*,
 battle of North Foreland, 291, defeat of the Dutch, *ib.*,
 Death of General Deane, *ib.*
 Edward II. K. murdered, 24
 Eton Montem, 208
 Factions of Presbyterians and Independants, 286
 Fees, Knight's, held by Nich. Poyntz, 20, 21
 Fischamp, Monks of, 13
 Fitz Pons, Simon, Lord of Swell, 6, 7
 France, Expeditions to, 16, 23, 24, 67, 68, 114
 France, Kings of, 3, 23, 24, 70, 78, 114
 George III., K., details of his birth, 211
 Gloucester, Abbot of, 6
 Gloucester, Duke of, 287
 Gloucester, Earls of, 7, 12, 12 n, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 28, 29, 53
 Gloucester, Knights of the Shire of, 57, 87, 89, 94
 Gloucester, Sheriffs of, 12, 27, 52, 54, 62, 67, 71, 89, 94, 95,
 96, 124
 Hayles, Abbot of, 11, 13
 Herefordshire, Sheriffs of, 84
 Hoo, Rectors of, 25, 30
 "Humble Remonstrance," The, 286
 Inscriptions, Monumental, 56, 92, 93, 264 n.
 Iron Acton Church, inscriptions in, 55 n.
 Iron Acton, Cross at, description of, 55 n. the same *illustr.* Pl. I.
 Iron Acton, M. acquired by marriage, 19, extent of, 51, 80
 Iron Acton, Manor House, description of, 100, 101, the same
illustr. Pl. II.
 Iron Acton, Rectors of, 54, 55 n.
 "Jurata" meaning of, 13 n.
 Kent, Sheriffs of, 10
 Kinley, Chantry of, 55
 Knights made by James I, 123.
 Land, value of, 51, 53
 Lisieux, Bp. of, 2
 London, Lord Mayors of, 33, 38
 "Majesty," first applied to the King, 70
 Melvern, Great, Prior and Monks of, 11, 29
 Mangotsfield, Manor, Berkeley contentions respecting, 73, 74
 Marriages inter the Families of Poyntz and Sydenham, 269
 Marriage, romantic, of Mr. Spencer and Miss Poyntz, 215
 Medal of Sir Sydenham Poyntz described and *illustr.* 169
 Montagu, the last Viscount, drowned, 223
 Monumental Inscriptions, untrustworthy character of, at
 North Ockenden, 31, 32, at Iron Acton, 56 n., St. Katharine's, London, 90, 91.
 "Naifray," derivation of, 121 n.
 Newark, the King leaves on the approach of Poyntz, 166,
 invested by Poyntz, *ib.*, proceedings before, 166, 167, remarkable incidents at the siege of, 166, surrendered by
 the King's Command, 168
 Northern Association, 161, 162, 168, 169, 173
 Norwich, Bp. of, 4
 Pamphlets, Civil War, 179
 Parliament, Hugh Poyntz summoned to, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22
 Parliamentary factions. dissensions of, 170, 177, 178
PEDIGREES.
 of Alderley, 131-132
 of Benefield, 198, 200
 of Benock and Acton, 111
 of Buckworth, 111
 of Cory Malet, 28-29
 of Crewes, 256
 of Deane of Guyting Poher, 293
 of Eliot, 133
 of Iron Acton, 94-97
 of Littleton, 49, 50
 of Midgham and Cowdray, 226-227
PEDIGREES—continued.
 of Mills, 145
 of Montage, 202 n
 of Morris, 49
 of North Ockenden, 47-49
 of Poyntz, 256, 257 n.
 of Reigate and Shells, 156
 of Roberts, 227
 of Sanderson, 158
 of Shepton Malet and Havant, 157
 of Skynner, 133
 of Usher, 111
 Peterborough, Bp. of, 186
 Plantaganet, Lady Margaret, sister to King Edw IV., her
 alleged marriage with the Earl of Warwick, 61 n.
 Plate and Pay of Stephen Poyntz as Ambassador, 209
 Pointes, John, Bp. of Winchester, 279, Inscription to, *ib.*
 Powderham Castle, attempt to seize, 286
 Poyntz, name assumed by Morris, 39, by Littleton, 41
 Origin of the Family, 1-3
POYNTZ, FAMILIES
 of Alderley, history of, 113, 133, ped. 131-132
 of Benefield, 185-200, ped. 198-200
 of Brenock and Acton, co. Armagh, history of, 102-111,
 ped. of 111
 of Cory Malet, 25, 28, ped. 28-29
 of Cowdray—Arms which they were entitled to quarter,
 228-230, descent of the same, 231-254
 of Devon and Somerset, 255-262, Ped. 262.
 of Essex, history of, 30-50, ped. 47-50
 of Iron Acton, history of, 51-102, ped. 94, 97
 of Leighlands, 264
 of Mells, Argument of their descent, 144, 145
 of Midgham, 201-207
 of Midgham, Cowdray, 208-225
 of Midgham and Cowdray, Pedigree of, 226, 227
 of Reigate, Mells, Nunney, and Havant, 134-158
 of Verschorten in Holland, 280-284
POYNTZ Ann, Plate and Jewels mentioned in her will, 34, 35
 Anthony, his character and proceedings, 75, 78
 Edward, his unruly conduct, 122, found to be a lunatic, *ib.*
 Edward Henry, his services, 154, 155
 Elizabeth, Lady, wife of Sir Sydenham, her letter to the
 Speaker, 175
 Ferdinando, employed to improve Dover Harbour, 36, 37
 Gabriel, Sir, denudes his estates to James Morris, 39
 Georgina Margaret, her romantic marriage, 215
 Hugh succeeded to the Barony of Cory Malet, 10,
 summoned to Parl. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22
 Intermarriages with Sydenham, 260
 Joan, Lady, als Dyer, her illtreatment, 72
 John, of Alderley, his will, 114
 John, friend of Sir Tho. Wyat, 33
 John, the Jesuit, 97 n.
 John, Sir, his embarrassments, 83, 88
 Matthew, of Alderley, his Will, 199
 Newdigate, Commander, R.N., his services, 196-197
 Newdigate, a Jesuit, 193, 194
 Nicholas, not summoned to Parl., 25, appraisment of his
 goods *ib.*, his sale of the Manor of Tockington, 26,
 his low estate, *ib.*, died s.p. 27
 Robert, Sir, adherent of the Earl of Richmond, 62,
 various grants to him, 63, 64, his contentions with
 the Berkeley family 64, 65, his re-edification of
 Jesus Chapel in Gaunt's Hospital, Bristol, 66, Arms
 there, 66 n., his Will, 98
 Robert, the Jesuit, 116
 Solomon, his correspondence, 282, 284
 Stephen, Admiral, his services, 151-153, honourable
 augmentation to his Arms granted, 153, 154
 Stephen, Captain of Eton Montem, 208, at Cambridge,
ib., joint Treasurer of Excise, 209, Commr. of Excise,
ib., Amb. to Sweden, to the Cambray, *ib.*,

- pay, &c. granted to him, *ib.*, Governor to the Duke of Cumberland, 209, his marriage *ib.*, sworn of the Privy Council, *ib.*, his death 216.
- Sydenham, Major General Sir, memoir of, 159-184, his birth and early life, 159, 160, his service under the Emperor, 161, and Knighted on the Field of Battle, *ib.*, accepts command under the Parl. *ib.*, app. Commander-in-Chief of the Northern Association *ib.*, Pontefract Castle surrendered to him, *ib.*, to have the next command worthy of him, *ib.*, pursues the King, 162, appointed Governor of York, *ib.*, reports to Parl. defeat of the King's Forces before Chester, 164, received grant of money, *ib.*, assaults Belvoir Castle and captures out-works *ib.*, re-inforcements ordered, *ib.*, marches to Nottingham, to invest Newark, 165, captures Shalford Castle, *ib.*, takes Wiverton Castle, 166, invests Newark, *ib.*, surrendered by the King's command, 168, charges against him *ib.*, his Vindication *ib.*, retains confidence of the House of Commons, *ib.*, his good services acknowledged, 169, money granted to him *ib.*, and annuity for life, *ib.*, his medal described 169, 169 n. the same *illustr.* 169, 170, endeavours to suppress the mutiny of the troops, 171, his proceedings approved by Parl. 172, seized by his own troops, 173, correspondence relating to the outrage, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, ordered by Parl. to be liberated, *ib.*, received a command in the *Reformadoes*, 177, complaints against him, 178, withdrawn into Holland, *ib.*, his Vindication, 179, 181, Pamphlets therein. *ib.*, 179, demands his arrears of Pay, 181, 182, places at which he did good service, *ib.*, appointed Governor of St. Christopher's, 183, his portrait, Pl. V., his character, 184
- William, his career, 160
- William Henry, his services, 155
- William, his letter to Sir Francis Bacon, 79
- Pride's Purge, 177, 181, 287
- Products of Agriculture, value of, 25, 51
- Rank and Honours lapse for want of means to support the dignity, 28 n
- Recusants, Popish, disabilities of, 270, 271
- Revels, Clerks of, 156
- Revels, Masters of, 141, their privileges, 141, 142
- Rowton Heath, battle of, 163
- Sacrilege, The fate of, 222
- Scotland, Commissioners from, 167
- Scotland, Expeditions to, 16, 22, 23, 106, 203, 289
- Seagrave, Barony of, 64
- "Self Denying Ordinance," 161, 285
- Senlac, Battle of, 3, 4
- Shelford Castle taken by Poyntz, 165
- "Slawing," meaning of, 35 n.
- Somerset, Sheriffs of, 10
- Southampton, Sheriffs of, 62
- Sparrow, Drn, marries Jane Deane 291, his death, *ib.*
- Suffolk, Sheriffs of, 10
- Swell and Tokington Manors, held by Poyntz, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 60
- "Swet, The" disease of, the King affected, 70, mortality, *ib.*
- Sydenham, intermarriages with Poyntz, 269
- Tewkesbury, Abb. of, 11
- Tokington Manor, held by the Poyntz family, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, Extent of, 18, 20, 22, 25, Sold to Lord Berkeley, 26; 30, 60, 80
- Tockington Park, 86
- Tokington, Rectors of, 9
- Welch Wars, Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, slain, 15, and David, executed, *ib.* 16
- Westminster, Abbot of, 60
- Wiverton Castle, surrendered, 166
- Worcester, battle of, 289
- Worcester, Bishops of, 6, 70
- Wyat's insurrection, 71
- York, Mayor of, 176
- "Yotting Stone," meaning of, 146

INDEX TO PLACES.

- Abbeville, 70
 Acton, co. Armagh, 102, 107, 111
 Acton, Iron. *see* *Iron Acton*
 Acton Ilger, 80, 82, 91, 99
 Acton Turville, 196
 Adestow, 257
 Africa, West Coast of, 151
 Agincourt, 58
 Albans, St., 219, 220
 Aldbury, 133
 Aldebiz, 6
 Alderley, 69, 95, 99, 114, 115, 119, 120, 121, 123 n., 124
 Alderley, Adrowson, 113
 Alderley, M., 113, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 130, 131
 Aldwark, 221
 Alexandria, 196
 Allfoxton, Som., 258
 Almondesbury, 9, 58, 99
 Althorpe, 215, 216, 217, 218, 225, 226
 Alverscott, 199
 Alveston, M., 58
 Alwington, Devon, 255
 Ambresbury, 63
 America, 139, 282
 Ametut [*?* Ampthill, Beds], 8, 28
 Amsterdam, 181, 182, 183, 283
 Anstey, M., 255, 256
 Antigua, 151, 183, 282
 Autwerp, 35, 36
 Aquitain, 24
 Ardwell, 227
 Arlington, Devon, 255, 260, 263, 263, n., 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 279, 280
 Armagh, co., 102, 103, 105
 Arthur's Stone, at Dorston, 162
 Ashbourne, 38
 Ashbrittle, 275, 280
 Ashton, 186, 187, 189, 191
 Aspenden, 158
 Astou Blauk, 151, 158
 Augsburg, 36
 Augustine St., Abbey, Bristol, 8, 28
 Austin Sellars, 187
 Aveley, 32, 48

 Baddesley, 156
 Bagpath, 123
 Balderton, 166
 Ballintoy Castle, co. Antrim, 109, 111
 Baltic, The, 152
 Bampton, M., 5, 28
 Bampton, par., 279
 Bann, riv., 102
 Bardolph, 10, 28, 279
 Barking, Essex, 206, 227
 Barmingham, 41, 49
 Barnesley, Park, 62, 95
 Barnstaple, 255, 259, 260, 261, 262
 Barr's Court, 88, 95, 96
 Barton, Hund. of, 62, 69
 Barton, M., 63, 69
 Batecombe, 25, 29
 Bath, 150, 207
 Bathampton, 227
 Bartholomew the Great, St., Church of, 292
 Battle Abbey, 221, 222
 Battersea, 226
 Beare, Som., 258
 Beavis Marke, 42
 Beddington, 11, 41, 49
 Bedford, 199
 Bedhampton, 143, 153, 157
 Bekensalle, 99
 Belvoir Castle, 164
 Bencombe, 123, 123 n., 284
 Benefield, 144, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 191, 192, 198, 200, 201, 226, 285
 Benenden, 89, 90, 96
 Bengal, 227
 Bennington Place, 92, 125 n
 Berkeley, 26, 63
 Berkeley, Barony of, 64
 Berkeley Castle, 8, 24
 Berkeley Honour of, 64
 Berkeley, Hund., 63
 Berks, co., 149, 218, 224
 Berryarber, 275
 Berry Pomeroy, 69
 Berwick-upon-Tweed, 19
 Bethune, 9
 Beverston, 58, 60, 62, 87, 95, 96
 Bewdley, 141
 Bideford, par. 278
 Bisbury, 187
 Bisley, Hund. of, 61, 95
 Bittadon, Devon, 255, 257, 259, 260, 261, 262
 Bognor, 224, 226
 Bonyugton, Fec., 20
 Borough Bridge, battle, 23
 Borough Barry, M. 186
 Bothwell brig, 106
 Botsford, 164
 Boulogne, 114
 Bourbourg, 71
 Bowteport, 260
 Boxwell, 121, 125 n.
 Brabarn, M. & Hund. 9
 Bradley, 38, 41, 46
 Bradston, 99
 Braunton, Devon, 255, 259, 259 n., 260, 262, 280
 Breda, 289
 Brenock, co. Armagh, 102
 Brest, 152
 Bridgwater, 285
 Bridport, 69
 Brimpton, 82, 87, 88, 268
 Brimsfield Park, 61, 95
 Bristol, 59, 62, 63, 66, 67 n., 69, 90, 95, 98, 123 n., 135, 141, 162, 285
 Bristol, Gaunt's Chapel, 98, 99.
 Bristol, St. James, 11, 63
 Brodeway, 20, 26, 30
 Brokenburgh, M. 58, 99
 Bromyard, 162
 Bruges, 61 n.
 Bruton, 124
 Buckingham, 202 n., 293, 294
 Buckinghamshire, 5 n., 33, 48, 71, 75 n., 89, 285, 293
 Buckland Brewer, 255, 257
 Buckworth, 95
 Bulwich, 95
 Byngham's Melcombe, 20

 Cabul, 227
 Caerlaverock, Siege of, 17
 Caerleim, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97
 Calais, 68, 114, 221, 223
 Cales, (Cadiz) in Spain, 138, 140, 160
 Callington, 220
 Camberwell, 7, n.,
 Cambray, 209, 218, 226, 294
 Cambridge, Co., 12, 29, 293
 Cambridge Univ., 70, 192.
 Cambridge Town, 71, 220
 Canadian Lakes, 197
 Candahar, 227
 Cannington, 69, 258
 Cauon's Ashby, 185
 Canterbury Cathed. and Colleges, 279
 Canton, 155
 Cape Henry, 153
 Carenton, 8
 Carhampton, 264, 270, 271, 274, 277, 278
 Carisbrook Castle, 287
 Carlingford, 103
 Carlisle, 16, 17, 18
 Carmarthen, 15
 Cassall, 182
 Cassandra Gardens, 183
 Castillou, 78
 Catebroc, 8, 28
 Chagford, 256, 257
 Chard, 264
 Charfield, 99
 Charfield down, 122
 Charlewood, 115, 131

- Chase Hills, 123
 Chatham, 155
 Chelmsford, 43
 Chester, 162, 164, 172, 182
 Chester, Co., 32, 69, 73
 China, 155
 Chipping Ongar, 39, 48, 49
 Chipstead, Advow., 134, 135
 Christopher's, St., 139, 183
 Chittlehampton, 261, 262
 Chylton, 21
 Cirencester 58, 65, 81, 130
 Clavering, 133
 Clayton Church, 75, n
 Cleeve Abbey, 265
 Cleeve, Old, Church, 265, 268, 270
 Cleeve Old, par 265, 268, 270, 271
 Clerkenwell, 191
 Clevedon Court, 65
 Clypston, 21
 Cockes, 21
 Coddington, 166
 Codnere, 30
 Colemore, 257, 259, 261
 Combe, 149, 151
 Compton, 133
 Constable, Melton, 33
 Copenhagen, 196
 Copt Hall, 79
 Corscombe, Fee, 20
 Cory Malet, Barony, 10, 11, 18
 Cory Malet, M., 12, 15, 21, 22, 25, 26, 29, 80, 94
 Coventry, 22
 Cowdray, 207, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 294
 Cowley, 123
 Crawsted, Fee, 20
 Cricklade, 71
 Cripplegate, 32
 Croscombe, 148
 Crundell, 293
 Daglingworth, M., 56, 64, 65
 Dartford, 190 190 n, 198, 203, 226
 Dartmouth, 286
 Dawley Court, 41
 Dean, Forest, 9, 84
 Debden, 38
 Debenham, 32
 Denchurch, in Irchinfield, 54
 Derby, 166
 Derby, co, 38, 46
 Devonshire, 5, 5 n, 69, 197, 219, 255, 274
 Didmarten, 82
 Ditchaet, 151
 Dodington, 76, 99
 Dollingham, M., 12, 29
 Domingo, St., 152
 Domat's, St., Castle, 200
 Doncaster, 22
 Dormington, 88
 Dorset, Co., 16, 18, 19, 20, 27, 29, 69, 143
 Dorston, Arthur's Stone at, 162
 Dosthoppe, 186, 187, 188, 189, 201.
 Dover Harbour, 36, 37
 Down, Co., 104
 Downs, 139
 Downside, 148.
 Drayton, Little, 197, 200
 Dronkenfield, 32
 Drumbanagher Castle, 109
 Dublin, 104, 160, 106, 108, 154
 Dublin, Castle, 104
 Dulwich Hospital, 136
 Dunbar, 289
 Dunny, 186, 198
 Dunstable, 199
 Dunster, Borough, 8, 258, 262, 264, 270, 271, 273, 274, 276, 277, 278, 279
 Dunster Castle, 8, 264
 Dunster Church, 264 n., 265, 277
 Dunville, 154, 157
 Durham, 214, 226, 294
 Easebourne, 221, 222
 East Down, Devon, 262
 East Indies, 203, 205
 Edessa, 2
 Edinburgh, 298
 Edmonton, 149
 Elbe, riv. 196.
 Elberton, 99
 Elkston, M., 52, 54, 57, 58, 70, 95, 99
 Ellesmere, 164
 Ellsworth, 26
 Erthcote, M., 58
 Essex, Co., 38, 39, 45, 47, 48, 149, 155, 157, 171, 195, 206
 Estchykerel, Fee., 20
 Estelleworth, M., 30
 Eton, 5, 28
 Eton College, 208
 Eu, County of, 1
 Exe, river, 286
 Exeter, 286
 Exmoor, 87
 Eydon, 196
 Fareham, 224
 Farncot, 285
 Farnham, 166
 Fife, co. of, 289
 Fischamp, Mon. of, 13
 Fissberton, Fee, 20
 Flamstead, 28
 Flanders, 61 n.
 Florence, 220
 Fokesham, M., 9
 Foremarsh, Som., 264, 270, 271, 277, 278
 Forth, Frith of, 289
 Forthergill, 109
 Fowey, 286
 Frampton, 2, 5, 28, 51, 57, 76, 82, 91, 94, 96, 99, 156, 268
 Frampton, Lens, 76
 Frodsham, 73
 Gainsborough, 186, 193
 Gastelyn, 99
 Gaunt's Chapel, 66, 66 n.
 Gawyns, 137
 Gayton, M., 9
 George Ham, Devon, 199
 Glamorgan, co., 199
 Glandestre, 52
 Glasbury, M., 6
 Glassenbury, 85, 96
 Gloostan, 198
 Gloucester, Abbey of, 5
 Gloucester, City, 5, 70, 98, 162
 Gloucester, Honour of, 8, 11, 14, 28, 60
 Gloucestershire, 5, 6, 10, 12, 19, 20, 22, 25, 26, 27, 41, 45, 60, 62, 63, 66, 68, 71, 75, 76, 86, 88, 94, 97, 125, 146, 151, 197, 199, 217, 282, 284, 285
 Glympton, 293
 Goldcliff, 85
 Goldsmith's Hall, 187
 Gravesend, 291
 Greenham, 275, 276, 280
 Grimsby, M., 9
 Grittleton, 199
 Guildford, 133
 Guildhall yard, 178, 179, 181
 Guyting Poher, 291
 Haberbashers' Hall, 161
 Hague, 181
 Halifax, 152
 Halliwell Priory, Middx., 7, n
 Hambrook, 99
 Hamme Green, 121
 Hampstead, 194, 199
 Hampton Court, 124, 225
 Hants, co., 62, 95, 149, 293
 Harescombe, 57, 256
 Harlington, 41, 49
 Harringworth, 19, 24, 29, 185
 Harringworth, m., 185, 198
 Harrow fields, 123
 Hatch, The, 134
 Havant, 143, 150, 153, 157
 Hawkesbury, 120, 124
 Heanton Punchardon, 260, 261, 262
 Hedington, 29
 Heligoland, 196
 Hempton, 58
 Hereford, 97
 Herefordshire, 5, 62, 63, 88, 154, 282
 Hertford, 70, 214
 Herts, co, 39, 192, 194, 199
 Hexton, 192, 194, 196, 198, 199
 Highgate, 194, 227
 Hill, M. 54, 80, 82, 83, 83 n, 94, 98, 99
 Hillesley, 124
 Hillhay, Essex, 195
 Hellingdon, 48
 Hinton, 99
 Hockley-in-the-hole, Clerkenwell, 194 n.
 Holborn, 191
 Holcombe, 148
 Holcombe Rogus, 275, 280,
 Holland, 36, 137, 178, 181, 279, 281, 282, 283
 Honam Islands, 155
 Hoo, Advow. of the Churches of SS. Margaret and Werburgh, 21, 22, 30
 Hoo, Hund, 21
 Hoo, M., 12, 19, 24, 29, 30, 32, 47
 Horley, 137
 Horwood, 256
 Hounslow, 79
 Hubbard, 141
 Hull, M., *see* *Hill*
 Hungerford, 149
 Hunsden, 70, 95
 Huusham, 256
 Huntingdon, co., 292
 Huntingford, 99,
 Hurst, 287
 Hyde Park, 211
 Hyllegh, Fee, 21

- Hyneton, M., 24
 Ireland, 102, 111, 151, 289, 290, 291, 294
 Irchinfild, 94
 Iron Acton, Church, 53, 54, 55, 55 n., 98. Chantries in, 55
 Iron Acton, M., 11, 14, 19, 33, 51, 52, 54, 60, 65, 71, 74, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 84 n., 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 94, 95, 96, 97, 99, 102, 108, 109, 111, 114, 256, 266, 281, 283, 284
 Iron Acton Manor House, 100
 Iwer, Bucks, 89

 Jamaica, 139, 140, 203, 206, 207, 226, 227
 James Town, Virginia, 137
 Japan, 155
 Jerusalem, 116
 Jorvaux, Abbey of, 3

 Kelham, 166
 Kensington, 212
 Kent, co., 9, 10, 12, 24, 30, 41, 47, 88, 91, 190
 Kilndown, 197, 200
 Kingrode, 63
 Kingscote, M., 119 n., 123, 132
 Kingsmarsh, 9, 28
 Kingston Bagpuze, 200
 Kingston, Devon, 271, 274, 280
 Kingston, Jamaica, 207, 227
 Kingswood, 68, 120, 121, 122, 132
 Kingswood Abbey, 75
 Kinley, Chantry, 55
 Kittesford, Devon, 275, 280
 Knaresborough, 23, 220
 Knight's Hill, 133
 Knottingley, Yorksh., 292
 Klycote, 113

 Lambeth, 191, 193, 194, 198
 Lancashire, 198
 Lancaster, Duchy of, 87, 96
 Lancerne, M., 63
 Langesutton, Fee, 21
 Langeton, 20
 Langley and Alveston, Hund., 58
 Langley, Devon, 257
 Langport, 285
 Langwen, Preb. of, 214
 Lanharan, 198, 200
 Lateridge, 82
 Lattesedge, 91
 Lanfenburg, 223
 Laxton, 185
 Laylands, 137
 Leach, M., 5, 6, 28
 Leatherhead, 133
 Leeah, 104
 Leeds Castle, 41, 49, 171
 Leesborough, 9
 Leicester, 165, 166
 Leige, 97 n
 Leigh Buckland, 143
 Leigh, Som., 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 274 n, 275, 277, 278, 280
 Leighland Chapel, 261, 264 n, 265
 Leith, 289
 Leominster, 162
 Lewisham, 158
 Lincoln, 22

 Lingfield, 133
 Lisbon, 140, 202, 206, 227
 Lisburne, 109
 Listray, 102
 Little Marlow, 220
 Littlecote, 219
 Llanarth, 85
 Llandaff, 214, 226
 Llanharan, 199
 Llanerhangel, 86
 Llanfyllin, 162
 Lodwerlang, 8
 Loire, riv., 114
 Lollynggeston, M., Kent, 52
 London, 16, 19, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 45, 63, 69, 71, 75, 92, 139, 141, 144, 149, 161, 167, 174, 188, 191, 193, 194, 198, 199, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 219, 220, 226, 227, 273, 281, 292.
 London, Grey Friars, 98
 London, Tower of, 71, 72, 181
 Londonderry, 149
 Longstock, 158
 Lopene, Fee, 21
 Lottisham, 151, 157
 Lough Brickland, 111
 Louvain, 116
 Ludeford, 20
 Ludlow, 162
 Lullworth, 27, 29
 Lurey, 262
 Luxborough, 87, 266, 268
 Lydiard Milcent, 200
 Lyun Regis, 213 n.,

 Madingley, 75 n.,
 Madrid, 70
 Magor Mon., 200
 Malmesbury, Hund., 13
 Mangotsfield, 73
 Marsh *See Foremarsh*
 Marsh, Higher, 277
 Marsh Lower, 277, 278
 Marshfield (Little), M., 99
 Marshwood, 277
 Marwood, Devon, 255, 257, 258, 261, 262, 279
 Mayne, M., 24
 Mediterranean, 152, 197.
 Mells, 134, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 153, 156
 Melton Mowbray, 165
 Mervin's land, 261
 Metcombe, 257, 258, 261, 262, 270, 279
 Metcott, 259
 Micklefield, 195
 Middlesex, 149, 194
 Midgham, 145, 150, 151, 203, 204, 209 n., 210, 210 n., 213, 219, 220, 226, 294
 Midgham, Jamaica, 201, 227
 Midhurst, 221
 Midsomer Norton, 147
 Milford Haven, 288
 Millers Heath, 164
 Missenden, Park, 61, 95
 Modena, 279
 Monaghan, co., 103
 Monmouth, 80, 97,
 Monmouth, co., 57, n, 82, 85, 95, 97, 200
 Montauban, 41, 49
 Monte Pelegrine, Castle, 3,
 Montreuil, 114

 Morea, 38,
 Moreto, 140
 Moreton, Honour of, 8
 Mount Hall, 111
 Mowbray Barony of, 64
 Munster, 106

 Nantwich, 163
 Narrow-Water, Castle, 103, 105
 Naseby, 166, 186, n. 187, n
 Nash, Manor, 200
 Neatlands, 261
 Netherlands, 76, 77, 138, 159, 160, 204, 208, 281,
 Nether Swell, 11, 13, 60
 Nettlecombe, 265
 Neve, 121
 Nevis, 139, 140
 Newark, 75, 163, 166, 167, 168, 169, 182, 187, n., 189, 192
 Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 19, 22, 23
 New England, 139
 Newgate, 127, 128, 129
 Newington, 137
 Newport, near Berkeley, 53
 New Radford, 157
 Newry, 104
 Newry Castle, 103
 Newton Abbot, 197, 199
 Newton, St. Petrock, 257, 257, n.
 New York, 200, 204
 New Zealand, 139, 154, 157
 Nibley, 89
 Norfolk, co., 33
 Normandy, 2
 North America, 197
 Northcote, Devon, 257, 259, 261
 North Creek, 214, 226
 North Foreland, 291
 Northampton, 187, 199
 Northampton, co. 185, 188, 196, 293
 Northleach, 158
 Nottingham, 155, 165, 166, 168
 Nottinghamshire, 186
 Nunney, 134, 147, 156
 Nutwell, 286
 Nyebourg, 196
 Nympsfield, 82, 88, 135, 156, 268
 Nympsfield, M., 54, 60

 Ockenden, (North) Church, 31, 32, 32 n., 33, 34, 38, 40, 45, 47, 48
 Ockenden (North) M., 31, 32, 35, 45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 59, 279, 281, 282, 283, 284
 Ockenden (South) Church, 38, 48
 Offley, 199
 Old Cleeve, par. Som., 264, 270, 277
 Olveston, 63, 81, 199
 Ongar Chipping, *see Chipping Ongar*
 Orriereightra, 102
 Ottington (Oddington), M., 6
 Oundle, 192
 Overwoodland, 58
 Owlpen, 123, 132
 Oxford, 88, 90, 102, 154, 166, 167
 Oxfordshire, 5, 28, 199, 293
 Ozeleworth, M., 75

 Padworth, 204, 205, 206, 226
 Painsford, 219, 294
 Pantynawel, 199
 Paris, 77, 114, 209

- Park le, 53
 Parkham, 279
 Parracombe, 258
 Paston, 186
 Peckham, 133
 Pendown, 268
 Penley, 96
 Penrose, 85, 86, 97
 Peterborough, 186, 198
 Petersburg St., 220
 Petyshawe, 58
 Phoenix Mills, 203
 Picardy, 68
 Pinnock, 293
 Plumstead, 151, 157
 Plymouth, 63, 151, 201, 288
 Plymouth Sound, 139
 Poditon, Fee, 20
 Pontefract, 23, 65, 66, 161, 171, 172,
 173, 174, 175, 179, 180, 181, 182
 Ponthieu, 24
 Portaferry, 108
 Portsmouth, 67, 140, 196, 238
 Portugal, 208
 Powderham, 69, 219
 Powderham Castle, 286
 Powderham Church, 286
 Prague, 138
 Prick's Ford, 261
 Putteridge, 39

 Rachenford, 255
 Radeslo Fee, 20
 Radeway Fee, 20
 Radnore, M. 52
 Radyr, 111
 Raglan Castle, 162
 Ramesing, M. 9
 Reading, 181
 Redmore, 62, 95
 Reigate, 96, 117, 131, 134, 136, 137,
 143, 144, 145, 185, 268
 Reigate, Advowson, 116
 Rhine, riv., 223
 Rhuddlan, 15
 Rhynberk in Holland, 281, 284
 Ribsford, 141
 Richard's Castle, 28
 Ridley, M. 69
 Ringwood, M. Hants, 62
 Rochelle, 139
 Rochester, 16, 30, 157
 Rockley, 22
 Rodwerlang, 8
 Rolvendon, Kent, 90
 Ross, co. Heref., 54
 Rotherfield, 81
 Rotterdam, 159, 282
 Roughton, 293
 Rowce, 123
 Rowton Heath, 163, 163 n., 169
 Rushbrook, 82
 Rye, la. M. 13

 Sandell, 182
 Savigny, 2
 Savoy, 193
 Scarva, 103
 Schaffhausen, 223
 Scotland, 289, 290
 Seratt, M., 195
 Shaftesbury, 95, 143, 146, 156
 Shelford, Castle, 165, 166

 Shane Castle, 108
 Shanghai, 155
 Shepham Fee, 21
 Shepton Malet, 149, 150, 157
 Sherborne, 19
 Sherborne Castle, 285
 Shillingford, 69, 95
 Shrewsbury, 15
 Shropshire, 40
 Shuland, 133
 Simmonshall, 118, 124, 130
 Siston, 146, 156
 Skinfrith, 95
 Slaughter, M., 13
 Slimbridge, 123
 Snite, riv., 167
 Sodbury Little, 95
 Sodbury, M., 62
 Sodbury, Old, 99
 Soissons, *See Cambray*
 Somerset, Co., 10, 16, 19, 20, 22, 29,
 69, 82, 87, 105, 143, 144, 147, 265,
 268, 274
 Southampton, 66, 143, 153
 Southrop, M., 5
 Southwark, 178
 Spain, 77, 138, 160
 Spencer House, 210, 214, 215
 Spurway, 262
 Stafford, Co., 197
 Stagbach, 154
 Stamford, 19
 Standish, M., 6, 116
 Stanshawe, 99
 Stratford Abbey, 61, n.
 Stratton, 147, 148, 200
 Staverton, Devon, 271, 274, 280
 Stawelle, 21
 Stedycote, 99
 Stepney, 193
 Stockholm, 209, 283
 Stockleigh English, 200
 Stoke, M., 9
 Stoke St. Edward, M., 19, 25, 29
 Stoke St. Michael, 157
 Stoke Milburgh, 40
 Stone, Staffs. 197, 200
 Stonhouse, 132
 Stounden, 99
 Sudbury, 94
 Suffolk, 10, 41, 293
 Surrey, 137, 198
 Sussex, co., 95, 220, 221, 224
 Sutton Horsey, M., 268
 Sutton, M., 9, 10, 11, 12, 29
 Sutton Montague, M., 268
 Swalecliffe, 293
 Sweden, 208, 209, 218, 226, 282,
 Swell, Berthona of, 7
 Swell, Chapel of, 7
 Swell, M., 5, 6, 7, 12, 12 n., 13, 05, 24
 Swell, Nether, *see Nether Swell*
 Syde, 200
 Syndercombe, M., 266

 Tauton Bishop, 262
 Taunton, 270
 Temple Church, London, 292, 293
 Temple Guyting, 285, 293
 Tenterden, 90
 Tewkesbury, 162
 Tewkesbury, Abbey of, 6, 7, 14, 28
 Theuborough, 257

 Thornbury, Devon, 75, 257
 Thornbury, M., 25, 62, 96
 Thurles, 95
 Tickenham, 93
 Tidenham, 197, 198, 199, 200
 Tilbury, in Holland, 208
 Tipperary, 293
 Tokington Park, 81, 82, 82 n., 86
 Tokinton, Chapel of, 9, 26, 28
 Tokinton, M., 10, 11, 12, 12 n., 13, 14,
 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30,
 58, 60, 65, 66, 67, 80, 84, 97, 281
 Toller, 91
 Tormarton, 46 n., 95, 195, 196, 198,
 199, 200
 Tortworth, 125 n.
 Totnes, 135
 Tower Hill, 61 n.
 Trefort, Abbey of, 2
 Trent, river, 166, 167
 Tre-Owen, 57 n., 82, 97
 Tresham, 99, 113
 Trevithods, [?] 278
 Tripoli, 2
 Truro, 286
 Tullymore, 104, 104 n.
 Twickenham Park, 79
 Tyborne, 61 n.
 Tydrington, 99

 Uley, 123, 123 n., 132, 284
 Ulster, 106
 Upminster, 48

 Venice, 116
 Verschorten, in Holland, 281, 282, 283
 Virginia, 137, 146, 151, 183

 Wabyngton, Fee., 20
 Wakerley, 185
 Walden, 199
 Wales, North, 162
 Wallingford, M., 130
 Walton, 186
 Waltham Cross, 149
 Wandregasil, M., 12
 Wapley, 99
 Wardour, 278
 Warrington, 111
 Wast, 121
 Watford, Herts., 92, 195, 199
 Watten, 97 n.
 Weaver's Hall, 287
 Welbeck, 182
 Wells, 73
 Welwyn, 194
 Weobley, 52, 62
 Westbury-on-Trym, 59, 132
 West Combe, Devon, 263 n., 270, 280
 Westcote, 99, 113
 Wester Cluny, 109, 111
 Westerley, 99
 West Indies, 138, 146, 151, 152, 209
 West Littleton, 196
 Westminster, 16, 18, 23, 24, 33, 43, 53,
 91, 167, 168, 188, 193, 198, 199, 203,
 206, 219, 220, 226, 291
 Westminster Abbey, 5, 28, 291, 292,
 293
 Weston, 45
 Weymouth, 197, 200
 Whaddon, 92 n.
 Whetenhurst, 135

- Wheyer, 160
Whitechapel, 140
Whitehall, 273, 288
Whitehorne, 139
Whittlebury, 188
Wickham, 293
Widrington, 287
Wiferlang, 8
Willian, co. Kent, 91, 96
Winchcombe, 57
Winchester, 23
Windsor, 287
Winterbourne, 58, 99
Winthorpe, 166
Wilts, 5, 22, 25, 123, 199, 219
Wivelsfield, 156
Wiverton, 165, 166
Woodhatch, 117, 131, 134, 136, 137
Woodland, 95, 99
Worcester, 15, 16, 154, 182, 289
Worcester, Cathedral, 98
Worcestershire, 5, 6, 63, 140
Worgrode, Fee, 20
Worken, 182
Worth Castle, 21
Wotton, 120, 121, 130
Wraxall, 95
Wurtemberg, 137, 183
Wynchelse, M., 13
Wynston, M., 52
Wytteburn Regis, Fee, 20
Yate, 73, 99
Yarnscombe, Devon, 255, 277, 280
Ychestock, 21
Yeovil, 151
Yetminster, 25
York, 19, 23, 161, 162, 165, 169, 171,
172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 180, 181
Yorkshire, 292
Zealand, 36

INDEX TO PERSONS.

- Acton, 19, 29, 51, 52, 55 n, 94
 Albin, St., 258, 259
 Alford, 61 n
 Alleyn, 136, 136 n
 Allen, 208
 Amelia-Sophia-Eleanora, Princess, 211,
 212, 212 n, 213
 Anderdon, 116
 Andrew, 257
 Andrews, 37
 Annesley, 103
 Anvre d', 29
 Ap Howell, 52
 Ap Maurice, 52
 Arch? Lady, 211
 Arnett, 40
 Arnold, 158
 Arthur, Prince, 61, 62
 Arundel, 278
 Ashfield, 96
 Ashmead, 123, 132
 Asteley, 33, 34, 35
 Aston, 202, 203, 227
 Astry, 92 n
 Aubrey, 137, 139, 183, 284
 Audeley de, 14, 25, 43, 52
 Austria, Duke of, 7
 Avery, 202, 226
 Ayloffe, 49
 Ayooob Khan, 227
 Ayseue, 183

 Babington, 193, 199
 Bachet, 274
 Bacon, 79, 133
 Badger, 97
 Bainton, 146, 148, 156
 Baker, 290
 Baldwin, 31, 47, 59
 Baldwin, K., 2
 Banak, 54
 Banbury, 227
 Banks, 9, 24
 Bannister, 137
 Barber, 261, 262
 Bardolph, 281
 Barker, 129
 Barkham, 186, 188
 Barley, 133
 Barleymay, 33, 48
 Baron, 45, 46
 Barrett, 47, 48
 Barrow, 43, 49

 Barry, 27, 29, 37
 Basset, 29, 123, 123 n, 132
 Bateman, Dow. Lady, 217 n.
 Bates, 198
 Baudwin, See *Baldwin* n.
 Baurkley *alias* Poyntz, 268
 Baynham, 62, 67, 95, 99
 Beaufort, 61, n.
 Beaumont, 278
 Beaver, 196
 Becher, 196
 Bedford, Barony, 64
 Bedwell, 37
 Bell, 149
 Bellasis, 167, 168
 Bencombe, de, 123, n.
 Benfield, 146, 156
 Bentinck, 217
 Berkeley, 26, 29, 54, 60, 63, 64, 65, 68,
 72, 73, 74, 79, 80, 81, 82, 87, 95, 96,
 118, 119, 124, 132, 183
 Berringer, 44
 Berry, 259, 262, 275
 Bessborough E. of, see *Ponsonby*
 Besseley, 44
 Bethell, 96,
 Bethune, de, 9, 28
 Bevyn, 266, 280
 Bingham, 196, 294
 Bisse, 260, 262
 Blachford, 277
 Bladington, 13
 Blake, 288, 290, 291, 294
 Blandy, 46 n, 200
 Blechynden, 203, 204
 Bliss, 196, 199
 Blount, 60, 124, 132
 Bluet, 64, 65, 275, 276, 280
 Blynch, 275, 280
 Bohemia Q. of, 138, 160
 Bohun, 221
 Bolein, 67, 68, 74
 Boniface, Pope, 18
 Booth, 49
 Boriton, 180
 Boscawen, 205,
 Bossard, 21
 Botiller, 60
 Bourbon, Const. of, 68
 Bourke, 293
 Bowyer, 258, 259
 Boxer, 151
 Boyle, 103, 119, 220, 227, 294

 Brace, 154, 157
 Bradstone, 67
 Brayne, 140
 Breause, de, 52
 Brereton, 162
 Bridgeman, 227
 Bridges, 71, 124, 148
 Brisbane, 152
 Briscoe, 160
 Brinn, 197
 Brompton, Abbot, 3, 4
 Bromwich, 82
 Brown, 43, 91, 95, 115, 115 n., 131, 190,
 198, 226
 Browne, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 226,
 294
 Brownings, 54, 54 n.
 Bruce, Robert, 22
 Bryan, 68, 258
 Buckingham, Lord, 211
 Buckworth, 104, 104 n., 111
 Bulkeley, 98, 99
 Bunce, 50
 Burdett, 223
 Burne, 199
 Butler, 91, 96, 104, 105, 106, 109, 110,
 111, 281
 Burton, 40
 Butson, 148
 Butt, 200
 Bynedon, Abbot of, 20
 Bynes, 31, 48
 Byng, 200
 Byngham, de, 20
 Bynner, 96
 Byron, Lord, 162, 165

 Cade, 137
 Cadogan, 103, 211
 Caesar, 91, 92, 94, 96
 Calva, 35, 48
 Calcote, 133
 Cameron, de, 13
 Campbell, 152, 289, 290
 Campion, 97 n.
 Canterbury, 59, 95
 Cantilupe, 29
 Carew, 41, 49, 68, 102, 106
 Carminow, 17
 Carne, 200
 Caroline Q., 210, 219
 Carter, 148
 Castleton, 194, 195, 196, 198

- Casy de, 183
 Caulfield, 196
 Cavendish, 187, 189, 207, 215, 217, 218, 219, 294
 Cavill, 191
 Cecil, 36, 40, 77, 105, 106, 225, 226, 294
 Challoner, 111
 Chambers, 83, 120, 121, 122 n, 132
 Champernown, 124
 Charles I., 282, 290
 Charles II., 181, 183, 289
 Charles V. Emperor of Germany, 70, 114
 Charlotte, Q. 220
 Chaworth, Lord, 166
 Cheeke, 32, 275, 276, 280
 Cheney, 70
 Cheyne, 111
 Chichester, 102, 263, 263 n, 264, 274, 275, 280
 Chilworth, 26
 Cholmelcy, 173
 Churchill, 217, 217
 Cioches, de, 9
 Clifford, 1, 2, 6, 15, 282
 Clinton, 225, 226, 294
 Clanvowe, de, 52, 94
 Clare, de, 12, 13, 14, 29
 Clarendon, 163, 178, 183
 Clark, 124
 Clarke, 193, 280
 Claville, 123, 123 n
 Close, 109
 Cobham, 37, 72
 Cock, 61, 95
 Cocks, 196
 Codrington, 82, 95, 96, 156, 166, 268
 Coffyn, 57
 Cokayne, 128
 Cola, 5
 Collier, 136 n
 Collier, 213
 Collis, 132
 Colliscott, 259, 262
 Colshay, 123
 Colwell, 121
 Combes, 148
 Conway, 103, 129
 Cooke, 76
 Cookworthy, 158
 Cooper, 119, 120, 121, 133
 Copley, 171, 174
 Coppinger, 41, 49
 Cork, E. of, see *Boyle*
 Cornwall, Edm. E. of, 15
 Cornwall, Rich., E. of, 11, 13, 29
 Cotel, 21
 Courtenay, 4, 69, 95, 219, 226, 294
 Cousin, 54, 57
 Coutances, Bp. of, 5, 5 n., 28, 255
 Cowper, 84, 106, 210, 215, 216
 Cox, 61, 86, 95
 Crawford, 204
 Crescy, 204
 Crew, 117, 121, 124
 Crewes, 256
 Croevait, 281
 Croke, 70
 Cromwell, 170, 171, 176, 177, 179, 183, 282, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292
 Crosby, 189, 198
 Cross, 194, 194 n.
 Crossley, 94
 Cruket, de, 20
 Cuffand, 97
 Cullimore, 146, 148, 156
 Culpepper, 117, 120, 121
 Cumberland, Duke of, 203, 204, 205, 209, 210, 211, 212, 218, 219, 226, 294
 Cutts, 38, 40, 48
 Dabridgeworth, 163
 Daucote. see *Deincourt*
 Daunt, 130
 David, Pr. of Wales, 15
 Davies, 159
 Davis, 96
 Davison, 189.
 Day, 195
 Deane, 226, 285, 291, 292, ped., 293, 294
 Deane, Major-Gen., Rich., his Life, 285—294
 Deincourt, 31, 47, 48
 Delany, 218
 Dennis, 154
 Denys, 58, 81, 95
 Devereux, 62, 95, 138, 160, 164, 291
 Devonshire, Duke of, see *Cavendish*
 Dewbonis, 276
 Dickson, 196
 Dinley, 63
 Dockery, 203
 Dockwra, 39, 40, 49
 Dodd, 137
 Dodington, 94, 95
 Dorset, Marquis of. see *Grey*
 Doughtie, 130
 Douglas, 218
 Dryden, 185
 Dudley, 71, 75, n, 76, 77, 79, 284
 Dugdale, 24, 282
 Durbin, 146, 148, 156
 Dyall, 11, 29
 Dyer, 72
 Dymerie, 83, 84
 Edmunds, 7
 Edward, Conf., 5
 Edward I. K., 4, 15, 16
 Edward II. K., 16, 23, 24
 Edward III. K., 24
 Edward VI. K. 71, 221,
 Elizabeth, Q. of Henry VII., 62, 63, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77, 139
 Ely, John de, 4
 Elyot, 117, 120, 131, 132, 133, ped., *ib.*, 134
 Erleigh, 27, 29
 Ernesi, 5
 Esse, de, 20
 Essex, E. of, see *Devereux*
 Estrange, 5
 Eu, William, Count of, 1, 5
 Evah, Countess, 103
 Evans, 154, 157
 Exeter, Marquis of, see *Cecil*
 Eyres, 46
 Fairfax, Sir Thomas, 161, 170, 172, 173, 176, 177, 179, 180, 181, 286, 289
 Fane, 294
 Farenden, de, 20
 Farnhill, 277
 Farrington, 60
 Fawknor, 220, 226
 Ferrers, Lady, 113, 211
 Ferris, 125 n.
 Filmer, 214
 Firth, 206
 Fitz Alan, Brian, his arms, 17
 Fitzgerald, 41, 49
 Fitz Hugh, Osbern, 28
 Fitz James, 99
 Fitz Nicholl, 54, 94
 Fitz Osbern, 11, 28
 Fitz Poyntz, Drogo, 5, 6, 11, 28, 255
 ——— Osbern, 5, 5 n., 6, 11, 28
 ——— Richard, 5, 6, 58
 ——— Simon, 5, 6, 7, 11, 14, 28, 255
 ——— Walter, 5, 6, 28, 282
 Fitz Pons, Pons Fitz Simon, 28
 ——— Nicholas, 28
 Fitz Poyntz, William Fitz Osbern, 28
 ——— Ralph 28
 Fitz Richard, Walter, 6, 28
 Fitz Reginald, Peter, 24
 Fitz Simons, 114
 Fitz William, 186, 221
 Fleetwood, 87
 Fletcher, 194, 194 n
 Flower, 105, 108, 146
 Foley, 84, 193
 Foliot, 10
 Fonnereau, 203
 Fordwich, Lord, 217
 Forest, 185, 186, 189, 191, 192, 198
 Fortescue, 104 n
 Foster, 94
 Fowler, 156
 Foxe, 120
 Foxley, 137, 138, 156, 185, 188, 189, 191, 198
 France, Philip K. o., 23, 24
 France, Francis I. King of 70, 78, 114
 Franchlyn, 27, 191
 Frederick, 203, 227
 Freeman, 3, 223
 French, 132
 Fulton, 203, 226
 Gage, 92, 221
 Gainsborough, 219
 Gainsford, 133
 Gambier, 196
 Gamlyn, 276
 Garbrand, 226
 Garnett, 37
 Garrick, 218
 Gaveston de, 14
 Gemish, 133
 George, 86, 152
 George II. K., 212
 George III. K. 211
 Gerrard, 162
 Gibbons, 88, 89, 96
 Giffard, 28, 96, 263 n
 Gill, 150
 Gilpin, 282
 Glegg, 217
 Glanville, 96, 216
 Glover, 150
 Godolphin, 87
 Golden, 138, 139, 159, 160
 Gore, 163
 Gorges, 90, 95, 96
 Gournay, 4, 23
 Grainger, 184, 184 n

- Granville, 217, 217 n
 Gray, 10, 166
 Greage, 281
 Greene, 61 n, 130
 Greenwood, 283
 Grene, 126
 Greville, 42, 43, 94, 99
 Grey, 17, 30, 70, 71, 97 n
 Grice, 294
 Griel, 202 n
 Griffith, 196
 Grimes, 277
 Grimsditch, 292, 293
 Grosvenor, 17
 Guildford, 68, 69, 95, 115, 131
 Gunning, 148
 Gunnor, 1
 Gurden, 76
 Gymbys, 113
 Hacker, 165
 Hale, 117, 120, 132, 188, 261
 Halkerton, Lord, see *Mackworth*
 Hall, 109, 111, 121
 Hamilton, 104, 107
 Hamilton, Marquis, 286
 Hampden, 135, 156
 Hamo Fitz Richard, 10
 Hanstlaing, 4
 Harrang', 20
 Harbie, 38, 38 n, 48
 Harcourt, 92 M
 Hardy, 4
 Hare, 148
 Harewell, 94
 Harman, 130
 Harris, 147, 190
 Hastings, 17, 91, 223
 Hawker, 153
 Haws, 46
 Hayward, 132, 140, 141
 Hazelrigg, 165
 Heath, 257, 290
 Heaver, 156
 Heneage, 76, 77, 79, 96
 Henry II. K., 13
 Henry III. K., 13
 Henry VII. K., 62, 221, 255
 Henry VIII. K., 36, 62, 69, 70, 72, 74, 114, 255
 Hensleigh, 266, 267, 268, 270
 Herbert, 140, 141, 142, 143, 212
 Hereford, Roger, E. of, 6
 Herington, 192, 198
 Heryage, 20, 52
 Hewer, 191
 Heynes, 132
 Hiesmes, Will. Count of, 1, 2
 Hill, 102, 268, 276
 Hillersden, 210
 Hines, 268
 Hobbes, 75
 Hodges, 146, 148, 156
 Hogge, 257, 257 n
 Holland, 61 n
 Holmesden, 133
 Holt, 293
 Honeywood, 133
 Hooper, 147, 148, 270
 Horde, 271
 Horman, 274
 Houghtin, 81
 Howard, 61 n, 64, 67, 68, 114, 153, 294
 Howth, E. of, see *Lawrance*
 Huddersfield, 69, 95
 Hungerford, 69
 Hunt, 189
 Hunteley de, 27
 Hunter, 5 n
 Huntingdon, Lady, see *Hastings*
 Huntley, 121, 122, 122 n, 125, 125 n, ped. *ib.* 126, 128, 129
 Husay, 4
 Husee, 4
 Hussey, 58, 94
 Hutchinson, 45, 46, 165, 166
 Hutton, 89, 136
 Hyde, 195, 204, 206, 206 n, 226
 Hynde, 75
 Ingleby, 86
 Ingler, 117, 120, 121, 131
 Ireton, 171, 172, 177, 287, 289, 291
 Isabel, 2, 24
 James I. K., 138, 160
 James II. K., 273
 Jenkins, 199, 200
 Jennings, 186
 Jermy, 82
 John, King, 8
 Johnson, 48
 Jones, 57, 82, 82 n., 163, 186 n.
 Joshua, 285
 Joy, 149, 150
 Joyce, 260, 286
 Kamble, 21
 Katherine (of Arragon), Q., 33, 36, 48, 62, 63, 64, 66 n., 68, 95
 Katherine (Parr), Q., 114
 Keats, 196
 Kent, E. of, 24
 Keppel, 211, 211 n.
 Keveridge, 133
 Kinderley, 196
 King, 274 n.
 Kingscote, 119, 121, 123, 132
 Kingsland, 271
 Kingsley, 50
 Knight, 133
 Knox, 152
 Lacy, de, 5
 Lamb, 27
 Lambert, 176, 177, 179, 180, 289
 Lancaster, 275, 280
 Lancaster, E. of, 22, 23
 Lane, 188, 193, 188
 Langdale, 163
 Langdon, 200, 262
 Lappenberg, 2
 Lasker, 133
 Latham, 38, 48
 Latimer, le, 21
 Lame, 192, 278, 280
 Lawrence, 89
 Lawrance, 294
 Leceline, 1, 2
 Lee, 70
 Leeworthy, 261, 262
 Lenthall, Speaker, 164, 171, 173, 174, 175, 176, 181, 187
 Leslie, 166
 Leveson-Gower, 294
 Lewis, 65 n.
 Lichfield, E. of, 163
 Ligon, 124
 Lilburne, 171, 173, 180
 Lisieux, Hugh Bp. of, 2
 Lisle, 58, 95
 Littlejohn, 139
 Littleton, 40, 43, 45, 46, 49
 Llanharan, 198, 199
 Llewelyn, Pr. of Wales, 14, 15
 Llcyd, 97, 140
 Lockyer, 196
 Loftus, 103
 London, 195
 Long, 92 n., 276
 Longespray, 4
 Longevil, 4
 Louis VI., K. of France, 3
 Louis XIV., King of France, 167
 Low, 75
 Lucan, E. of, see *Bingham*
 Lucas, 107, 108, 111, 164, 165
 Lupo, 10
 Luttrell, 264, 264 n.
 Lydiard, 293
 Lysagh, 293
 Mc Gennis, 103, 108
 Mackworth, 222
 Malcher, 203, 207, 227
 Malet, 10, 12, 270, 276
 Malerbe, 20
 Manford, 29
 Mann, 210 n.
 Manning, 190, 190 n., 198
 Marburg, 129
 Marchant, Le., 218
 Marchmont, E. of, 214
 Marlborough, Duchess of, see *Churchill*
 Martin, 139, 148
 Mary, Q., 71, 75, 79, 222
 Massy, 164, 157, 177, 178, 179, 181, 289
 Mathew, 111
 Mathews, 96
 Matson, 99
 Mauley, de, 217
 Meantys, 260
 Mede, 59
 Medley, 48
 Melguel, Count, 3
 Mellington, 274 n.
 Mendoza, 78
 Merle, 4
 Meryet, 21
 Meynell, 46, 49
 Middlemore, 81
 Mill, 57, 94, 256
 Millard, 157
 Miller, 199
 Minor, 197, 200
 Moigne, 27
 Molesworth, 109
 Molineux, 88
 Moncreif, 203, 227
 Monk, 289, 290, 291, 294
 Montagu, 226
 Monteage, 202 ped., 202 n., 206, 208, 226, 293, 294
 Montagu, Viscount, see *Browne*
 Monte Alto, (Montalt) 19, 20
 Montford, Simon de, 14
 Montreville, 167
 Montrose, Marquis of, 289
 Moore, 111, 152, 156

- Mordaunt, 109, 209, 226, 283
 Morgan, 78, 86, 259, 262
 Morris, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 48, 49, 281
 Morrison, 147
 Mortimer, 52
 Morton, 67 n.
 Mowbray, 4, 64
 Munroe, 103
 Murry, 46
 Muscegros, 10, 11, 29

 Neale, 80
 Nelthorpe, 91
 Nevill, 26 n., 61 n. 68, 221
 Newman, le, 20
 Newburgh, 27, 29
 Newbury, 276
 Newcombe, 278, 280
 Newdigate, 117, 133, 155, 156
 Newton, 78 n., 88, 95, 96, 110
 Nicolas, 24, 279
 Nott, 121
 Norfolk, Duke of, see *Howard*
 Normandy, Rich. I., Duke of, 1
 ———, Rich. II., Duke of, 1.
 ———, William, Duke of, 1, 2, 3, 5
 Norice, 120
 Norres, 70
 Norton, 256
 Norton, de, 20

 Oates, 105, 106
 Odierne, 139
 Offerton, 174
 O'Hanlon, 107, 108
 Oldisworth, 41, 49
 Oldrington, 183
 Oliver, Dr., 274 274 n
 O'Neil, 103
 Orange, Prince of, 36, 205, 214
 Orchard, 57
 Orwi, 6
 sborne, 84
 O'Sheale, 108
 Ou, de, 1, 5, 28
 Over, 263
 Overton, 180
 Owen, 96, 221
 Owsley, 188, 189, 193, 193 n, 198
 Oxford, Bp. of, 211

 Paget, 77
 Paine, 226
 Palmer, 117, 131, 133
 Parker, 92 n
 Parkyns, 186, 198, 200, 226
 Parma, Prince of, 77
 Parminter, 122
 Parry, 224
 Paschal, Pope, 3
 Parsons, 60, 76, 164
 Paveley, 18, 29
 Paynel, 10, 25, 29
 Payns, 4
 Peacock, 161
 Pechie, 68
 Peckham, Archb., 279
 Pelham, 212
 Pellew, 151
 Pencoyt, de, 53
 Penne, 91
 Peny, 87, 91, 96
 Pepys, 140, 143

 Perrot, 95
 Perth, 32, 48
 Peryam, 39, 49
 Petche, 53
 Peterborough, Bp. of, 186
 Pettet, 196
 Philip K., 75, 79, 222
 Phillips, 150, 151, 157
 Pierce, 227
 Piers, 151, 157
 Pinkerton, 169
 Pitt, 96, 206, 227
 Plantagenet, 62
 Player, 92
 Plomer, 115, 116
 Plompton, 61
 Plonkenet, 51, 61
 Pointes, John, Bp. of Winchester, 270
 Pole, 259
 Pollard, 58, 256, 260
 Pomeray, 4, 69
 Pons, in Pontins, 28
 Ponsonby, 217, 294
 Pontelarge, 4, 5
 Pontesserra, see *Pointes*
 Popham, 197, 219, 283, 290, 291
 Porter, 90, 91, 92
 Poulton, 293
 Pouchardon, 4
 Power, 121
 Powys, 49
 Poyntz, 1, 2, 5, 6, 14, 35, 265, 278, 279
 Edward, of Beverston, 62
 Hugh, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
 Nicholas, 7, 8, 9, 11
 Reginald, 7
 Simon, 7
 POYNTZ OF ALDERLEY, 113, 133, ped. of
 131—132
 Alice, 114, 116, 131, 132, 133
 Anne, 118, 130, 132
 Edward, 120, 121, 122, 124, 132
 Eleanor, 132
 Elizabeth, 114, 115, 116, 117,
 118, 120, 121, 123, 130, 131,
 132, 133, 284
 Frideswide, 114, 116, 117, 131
 Henry, 114, 115, 117, 131
 John, 69, 95, 113, 114, 115, 116,
 119, 121, 123, 131, 132, 133,
 134, 156
 Joan, 132
 Joseph, 123, 132
 Katherine, 132
 Margaret, 114, 115, 116, 130,
 131, 132, 133, 134
 Martha, 123, 132
 Mary, 132
 Matthew, 114, 115, 117, 118, 119,
 119 n., 120, 121, 122, 122 n.,
 123, 124, 131, 132, 133, 284
 Nicholas, 118, 119, 120, 121,
 124, 125, 126, 128, 129, 130,
 132
 Rachel, 132, 133
 Robert, 114, 115, 116, 118, 124,
 129, 130, 131, 132
 Robert, the Jesuit, 116, 131,
 Sarah, 123, 132
 Sylvester, 119 n., 132
 Thomas, 120, 123, 123 n., 130,
 132

 William, 114, 115, 116, 117,
 118, 119, n., 120, 130, 131,
 132, 134
 Winifred, 117, 121

 POYNTZ OF BENEFIELD
 Alice, 190, 198, 192, 199, 200
 Ann, 185, 186, 192, 198, 199
 Anna Lucia, 193, 199
 Anna Maria, 198
 Amy, 199
 Caroline, 199
 Caroline Ann, 200
 Caroline Ursula, 200
 Catherine, 190, 198
 Charles, 186, 187, 188, 198
 Deane, 202, n
 Dorothy, 189, 193, n, 198
 Eleanor Jane, 200
 Elizabeth, 194, 195, 198, 199
 Emily, 200
 Francis, 186, 187, 188, 190, 191,
 198, 202
 Helen Romola, 200
 Helen Willis, 197, 200
 Henry Castleton Stephen, 200
 John, 185, 186, 187, 188, 190,
 198, 201
 Isabella, 199
 Jane, 191, 194, 198, 199, 200,
 202, 285
 Jane Grey, 199
 Katherine, 191
 Lucy, 197, 199, 200
 Margaret Alice, 200
 Margaret Julia, 197, 200
 Mary, 186, 187, 188, 189, 192,
 193, 194, 196, 198, 199, 200,
 201, 202
 Mary Dorothy, 200
 Mary Elizabeth, 200
 Nathaniel, 195, 199,
 Nathaniel Castleton Stephen,
 197, 200
 Nathaniel John, 200
 Newdigate, 46, n, 166, 185, 186,
 186, n., 187, 188, 189, 190,
 191, 192, 193, 193 n., 194, 194 n.,
 195, 196, 198, 199, 200, 201,
 226
 Richard Stephen Pierrepont, 200
 Robert, 192, 193, 194, 198, 199
 Robert Hugh, 200
 Sarah, 185, 186, 187, 189, 191,
 192, 193, 194, 198, 199
 Sarah Jane, 200
 Susan, 185
 Stephen, 195, 199, 202 n.
 Thomas, 186, 187, 189, 191, 192,
 193, 194, 198, 199
 William, 191, 199, 201, 202,
 285, 293

 POYNTZ OF BRENOCK AND ACTON, CO.
 ARMAGH
 Charles, 88, 96, 102, 103, 104,
 105, 108, 110, 111
 Chichester, 104, 110, 111
 Cristine, 103, 105, 108, 111
 Edward, 104, 111
 Lucas, 111
 Lucy, 108, 111
 Mary, 108, 111
 Rose, 104, 105, 111
 Sarah, 105, 111

Toby, 103, 104, 105, 108, 111
POYNTZ OF CORY MALET
 Alianora, 24, 27, 29, 30
 Amicia, 29
 Elizabeth, 19, 30
 Hawisia, 10, 29
 Hugh, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16,
 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 28,
 29, 47, 279
 John, 29
 Johanna, 8, 25, 28, 29, 69
 Juliana, 10, 28
 Margaret, 18, 25, 27, 29
 Matilda, 19, 20, 21, 29
 Nicholas, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 21
 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 47
 Ralph, 10, 11, 29
 Pons fitz, Simon, 11
 Simon fitz Pons, 11
POYNTZ OF DEVON AND SOMERSET.
 Agnes, 259, 262, 271
 Alice, 270, 275 n, 279
 Ann, 268, 270, 276, 277, 278,
 280
 Charles, 262, 263, 270, 280
 Christian, 278
 Clement, 271, 272, 273, 273, 274,
 275, 277, 280
 David, 257, 262
 Dorothy, 271, 272, 280
 Edward, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261,
 262, 263, 264, 264 n, 270, 274,
 275, 275 n, 276, 278, 279, 280
 Eleanor, 260, 261, 262
 Elena, 257
 Elizabeth, 255, 259, 260, 262,
 275, 275 n, 280
 Frances, 275, 276, 278, 280
 Geoffrey, 257
 Gertrude, 270, 279
 Giles, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274,
 276, 277, 278, 280
 Grace, 257, 270
 Henry, 270, 280
 Hugh, 257, 257 n
 Humphrey, 256, 257, 257 n
 John, 257, 257 n, 258, 259, 259 n,
 260, 261, 262, 263, 263 n, 268,
 270, 275, 275 n, 276, 277, 280
 James, 257, 257 n
 Joan, 259, 260, 261, 262, 275, 280
 Julian, 257
 Katherine, 257
 Margaret, 257, 259, 262, 263,
 264, 267, 268, 275, 276, 278,
 280
 Mary, 257, 257 n, 259, 260, 261,
 262, 275, 276, 280
 Nicholas, 255, 256, 257, 257 n,
 258
 Petronell, 261, 262
 Philip, 263, 270, 275, 276, 280
 Prudence, 271, 272, 273, 274,
 276, 277, 280
 Rawlin, 260, 261, 262
 Richard, 257, 258, 259, 262, 263,
 270, 275, 280
 Robert, 263, 264, 267, 268, 170,
 275, 280
 Sage, 261
 Susanna, 257
 Temperance, 270, 275, 275 n,
 276, 277, 278, 280

POYNTZ OF ESSEX.
 Adam, Sir K., 48
 Agnes, 31, 48
 Alianora, 31, 47
 Ann, 32, 33, 35, 46, 48, 49
 Beatrix, 32, 48
 Catherine, 32, 39, 41, 43, 48
 - Morris, Dorothy, 42
 Edward, 31, 42, 47
 Edmund, 33, 48
 Eleanor, 31
 Elizabeth, 31, 33, 38, 48
 Etheldreda, 38, 39, 43, 44, 45,
 48, 49
 Frideswide, 33, 48
 Ferdinando, 34, 36, 37, 48
 Gabriel, Sir, 32, 33, 34, 36, 38, 39,
 40, 42, 43, 45, 48, 49
 Henry, 31, 48
 Hugh, 30, 47
 John, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39,
 41, 43, 46 n, 48
 James, 41, 46, 49
 Jane, 39, 49
 Margaret, 31, 48
 Mary, 42
 Matilda, 31, 32, 47, 48
 Meynell Littleton, 46
 Nicholas, 31, 47
 Poncius, 31
 Poyntz, 42, 43, 44, 47, 49
 Richard, 42, 49
 Reginald, 31, 48
 Robert, 34, 36, 47, 48
 Sarah, 38, 48
 Susanna, 36, 38, 39, 41, 48, 49
 - Littleton, Thomas, 45, 46, 49,
 50
 Thomas, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36,
 38, 39, 40, 43
 Thomasine, 32, 48
 Uranus, 41, 49
 William, 32, 33, 34, 48, 64
POYNTZ OF IRON ACTON.
 Ann, 55 n, 63, 75, 76, 82, 91, 92,
 93, 94, 95, 96, 97
 Alice, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 65, 94,
 95
 Anthony, 63, 66, 67, 68, 69, 71,
 74, 75, 77, 95, 96, 98, 99
 Blanche, 54, 94
 Bridget, 85, 97
 Cecily, 89, 90, 96
 Charles, 96
 Dorothy, 87, 96, 110
 Edward, 55 n, 55 n, 80, 81, 82,
 82 n, 84, 84 n, 87, 97
 Edmund, 75, 96
 Eleanor, 96
 Ellen, 94
 Elizabeth, 52, 57, 62, 64, 65, 69,
 87, 88, 94, 95, 96, 97, 109, 111
 Ferdinando, 95
 Poyntz, Fitz Nicholas, 59
 Florence, 97
 Frances, 75, 87, 88, 89, 90, 96, 110
 Francis, 69, 70, 75, 76, 95, 96, 98
 Giles, 72, 73, 74, 95
 Grissel, 84, 89, 90, 96, 110
 Henry, 58, 59, 60, 95
 Hugh, 55 n, 81, 82, 83, 86, 87,
 90, 97, 110, 281, 282
 Humphry, 57, 58, 95

John, 52, 53, 54, 57, 60, 61, 61 n,
 62, 63, 64, 69, 73, 80, 81, 82,
 83, 83 n, 84, 84 n, 85, 87, 88,
 89, 90, 91, 92, 94, 95, 96, 97,
 97 n, 98, 102, 109, 110, 111,
 122, 266, 267, 268
 Isabel, 54, 64, 94
 James, 95, 96
 Jane, 94, 95
 Jeannette, 86, 97, 96, 98, 99, 113
 Joan, 54, 65, 72, 79, 94, 95, 96
 Johanna, 58, 59, 69, 75, 95
 Katherine, 54, 54 n, 57, 94, 95
 Margaret, 57 n, 58, 59, 65, 65 n,
 66, 78 n, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85,
 86, 90, 91, 94, 95
 Margery, 60, 94
 Mary, 81, 82, 87, 95, 96, 97, 97 n,
 135, 156
 Matilda, 51, 52
 Maurice, 54, 57, 58, 59, 94, 95
 Nicholas, 51, 52, 54, 55 n, 57, 58,
 60, 62, 63, 64, 65, 69, 71, 72,
 73, 74, 75, 76, 79, 80, 81, 82,
 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 94, 95, 96,
 97, 98, 101, 110, 114, 135,
 156, 256
 Peter, 59, 60
 Ponce, 65
 Robert, 14, 33, 53, 54, 54 n, 55 n,
 57, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65,
 65 n, 66, 67, 69, 71, 74, 82, 83,
 84, 85, 87, 88, 89, 90, 94, 95,
 96, 97, 99, 102, 105, 110, 111,
 113
 Rowland, 85, 85 n, 86, 97
 Sybil, 94
 Thomas, 54, 58, 59, 60, 61, 63,
 65, 68, 71, 94, 95, 99, 113,
 279, 281, 283, 284
 Ursula, 81, 87, 88, 96, 268
 William, 79, 96
POYNTZ OF MIDGHAM AND COWDRAY
 Anna Maria, 209, 210, 212, 213,
 215, 216, 226
 Caroline Amelia, 219 n, 227,
 294
 Charles, 204, 210, 213, 214, 226,
 294
 Charles Courtenay, 220, 227
 Charlotte Louisa, 220, 227
 Courtenay John Browne, 224,
 226
 Deane, 203, 204, 205, 206, 226,
 294
 Eleanor, 227
 Elizabeth Georgina, 224, 225,
 226, 294
 Elizabeth Mary, 223, 224, 225,
 226
 Frances Selina Isabella, 224,
 225, 226, 294
 Florence, 203, 226
 Georgina, 226
 Georgina Ann, 220, 226, 294
 Georgina Margaret, 210, 215,
 216, 217, 217 n, 294
 Hannah, 203, 206, 226, 227
 John, 226
 Isabella, 207, 220, 224, 226, 294
 Isabella Henrietta, 220, 227,
 294
 Jane, 203, 206, 208, 226

- Joseph, 203, 204, 206, 207, 227, 294
 Launcelot, 227
 Louisa, 204, 214, 216, 226
 Mary Crawford, 226
 Martha, 206, 226
 Mary, 201, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 226, 227
 Mordaunt Montagu, 220, 226
 Newdigate, 201, 227
 Robert, 204, 205, 206, 226
 Stephen, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 213, 215, 217 n., 218, 219, 226, 281, 294
 William, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 213, 216, 219, 219 n., 226, 227, 294
 William Deane, 204, 213, 227
 William, Montagu Browne, 224, 226
 William, Stephen, 207, 209 n., 214, 220, 221, 223, 224, 225, 226, 294
- POYNTZ OF REIGATE, MELLIS, AND NUNNEY, 134—158
 Alice, 146, 156
 Ann Eleanor, 137, 138, 146, 147
 Anne, 135, 136, 137, 156, 159, 160
 Charles, 137, 187
 Charlotte, 151
 Denham, Sir (?) 137, 138
 Dorothy Ann, 154
 Edward Henry, 154, 155
 Elizabeth, 134, 135, 138, 144, 146, 147, 154, 156, 175, 176
 Frances, 137, 146, 156
 Frances Lydia, 154
 Francis, 137, 149
 Grace, 146, 156
 Helen, 135, 137, 156
 John, 134, 135, 136 n., 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 156, 159, 160, 198
 James, 137, 145, 148, 150, 151, 156
 James William, 154
 Jane, 156
 Margaret, 156
 Mary, 137, 147, 149, 151, 154, 156
 Mary Frances, 154
 Newdigate, 137, 138, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 156, 160
 Rachel, 156
 Richard, 143, 144, 145, 146, 148, 149, 153, 156
 Sarah, 137
 Sydenham, Sir, 137, 138, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 150, 151, 156. Life of, 159-184; 187, 188, 282, 283
 Stephen, 144, 145, 147, 150, 151, 153, 154
 Stephen Edward, 139, 154
 Strode, 149, 150
 Susan, 137, 138, 156
 Thomas, 137, 149, 284
 William, 134, 135, 137, 138, 139, 144, 145, 146, 147, 149, 150, 151, 156, 159, 160, 176
- William Hampden, 155
 William Henry, 139, 150, 155
- POYNTZ OF SHIPTON MALET AND HAVANT
 Charlotte, 158
 Edward Henry, 157
 Frances Lydia, 157
 Frances Mary, 157
 Henrietta Emily, 157
 Henrietta Maria, 157
 Henry William, 157
 Hilda Maude, 157
 Hugh Stainton, 157
 John, 157
 James, 157, 158
 James William, 157
 Katherine Margaret, 157
 Mary, 157
 Mary Eliza, 157
 Mary Frances, 157
 Stephen, 157, 158
 Stephen Edward, 157
 Strode, 157
 William, 157
 William Hampden, 157
 William Henry, 157
 William James, 157
- POYNTZ OF VERSCHORTEN IN HOLLAND
 Daniel, 281
 Mary, 281, 282
 Solomon, 281, 282, 283, 284
 Thomas, 281, 283, 284
- Prentes, 54
 Prettyman, 46, 293
 Price, 89, 96
 Pride, 181
 Prideaux, 257
 Priestley, 215
 Prons, 256, 257, 277
 Pryn, 179
 Pyne, 275, 276
 Pynnar, 102
 Pype, 272
- Queensbury, Duke of *See Douglas*
- Rampayne, 92, 94
 Rawlin, 194 n.
 Rawlinson, 149
 Reid, 208
 Reygn, de, 21
 Reynell, 124, 125
 Rich, 160
 Richard III, K. 62
 Richmond, 57
 Ricketts, 204, 207, 227
 Rider, 50
 Ridge, 89
 Rivet, 75
 Roberts, 88, 89, 96, 110, 207, 227
 Robertson, 109
 Robinson, 292
 Rogers, 59, 69, 140, 194, 194 n.
 Rocheford, de, 21
 Romana, Marquis, de la, 196
 Rossiter, Col. 162, 166
 Roundell, 223, 228 n.
 Rouse, 274
 Rowe, 271, 274, 274 n., 275, 277, 278
 Rushworth, 287
 Russell, 70, 124, 212, 260
 Rydal, 21
 Rymill, 191
 Rythes, 133
- St. Giles, Raymond, Count of, 2, 3
 St. Lac, 71, 95
 Saintonge, Princes of, 2
 Saffray, 20
 Salmen, 292, 293
 Salter, 149
 Saltonstall, 38, 48
 Salvey, 290
 Sancerft, 214
 Sandford, 199
 Sanderson, 151, ped. 158
 Sands, 133, 165
 Saunders, 114, 115, 131, 134, 200
 Santon, 73
 Savage, 4, 73, 74, 105, 148
 Saxony, Duke of, 168
 Say de, 28
 Scot, 290
 Scott, 37
 Scrope, 17
 Searle, 196
 Secker, 214
 Secoll, 115, 116
 Selwyn, 57, 218
 Seymour, 72, 96, 208, 225, 226, 263
 Shad, 32, 33, 48
 Shephard, 135, 136
 Shute, 57 n.
 Sibelles, 33, 46 n., 48
 Sicily, Count of, 2
 Simon, 169
 Skippon, 171
 Skynner, 117, 131, ped. 133, 134, 137
 Sledge, 150, 157
 Smith, 41, 43, 44, 49, 65, 89, 96, 103, 116, 128, 129, 130, 135, 147, 156, 199
 Soisson, Willm., Count of, 2
 Southampton, Earl of, *see Fitz William*
 Sparrow, 202, 202 n., 291, 292, 293, 294
 Spatchurst, 140
 Speke, 267
 Spelman, 222
 Spencer, 184, 196, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 118, 219, 225, 226, 294
 Sponer, 33, 48
 Spurway, 261, 262
 Stafford, 14, 26, n., 53, 60, 68, 281
 Stanhope, 165, 208
 Stanihurst, 111
 Stanley, 57 n., 82, 96
 Stanning, 201
 Stanshaw, 94
 Stanton, 119, 119 n.
 Stapleton, 61, 163
 Staunton, 81
 Stawker, 76, 78, 96
 Stephen, K., 6
 Stephens, 213
 Stephney, 202, n.
 Stepney, 294
 Steris, 61, n.
 Stewart, 109, 111,
 Stok, de 20
 Stradling, 65, 65 n., 66, 67 n, 89
 Straunge, 4, 5,
 Strode, 149, 157
 Stuart, 211, 274, 294
 Suckling, 32 n.
 Sutton, 191, 192
 Swell, Chaplain of, 6, 7
 Sweeting, 197, 200
 Swift, 135, 136, 293

Robinet 97.

Sydenham, 82, 87, 88, 96, 110, 111, 135
 137, 145, 146, 156, 159, 185, 265, 266,
 267, 268, 270, 280
 Symonds, 104 n.
 Sydney, 288
 Syreburne, W., 6
 Tailleur, 4
 Talbot, 214
 Tancred, 3
 Taverner, 192, 193, 194, 198, 199
 Tedcastle, 188, 189, 198
 Thirlby, 71,
 Tholouse, Counts of, 2, 3
 Thomas, 86, 140, 201, 261
 Thompson, 55, 55 n, 144, 151, 208
 Thoms, W. J., 288
 Thorne, 262,
 Thorold, 157,
 Thorpe, 278
 Throckmorton, 41, 49, 77, 80, 122, 125 n
 Thurland, 133
 Thynne, 132
 Tippet, 140
 Toden, de 5, 6, 28
 Toller, 91
 Tollie, 133
 Torre, 83
 Tostig, 5
 Townsend, 276
 Townsend, 211, 211 n., 212, 220
 Townshend, 208, 209, 213, 213 n., 226,
 294
 Traily de, 9, 28
 Trapps, 133
 Trevelian, 268
 Trevor, 101, 102 n.
 Trimmer, 219
 Tripoli, Bertram, Count of, 2

Trivet, 21
 Tromp, 290, 291
 Tryon, 185
 Tucker, 156
 Tudor, 69
 Tundicote, dc, 13
 Turketil, 1
 Turnay, 4
 Tyndale, 26
 Tyrell, 111
 Usher, 104, 111
 Valentia, 172
 Valladolid, 70
 Veale, 83
 Venables, 64, 191
 Vere, de, 61 n.
 Verney, 75, 75 n., 81, 96
 Vivonia, de, 10
 Vicars, 163
 Vigourdaux, 213
 Villiers, 126, 127
 Vincent, 271, 272, 274, 280
 Voltaire, 220
 Wace, 1, 3
 Walcott, 49
 Waleys, le, 20
 Waller, 177, 179
 Wallin, 146, 148, 156
 Wallop, 70, 70 n.
 Walpole, 209, 210, 215, 218
 Walsh, 63, 93, 99
 Walsingham, 37, 77, 78
 Walter, 96
 Walworth, 53
 Warham, Archb., 255
 Warre, de la, 51

Warren, Earl of, 24
 Warwick, E. of, see *Nevill, Devereux*
 Wase, or Waas, 285, 292, 293
 Waye, 270
 Webbe, 27, 114, 124
 Webster, 149, 149 n, 150, 151, 222
 Wells, 293
 Westmorland, E. of, see *Fane*
 Weston, 163
 Whalley, 172, 193
 Wharting, 271
 White, 50
 Whitechurch, 103, 104, 111
 Whitfield, 195, 199
 Whitelocke, 287
 Whistler, 149, 150
 Whittington, 268
 Wickham, 292, 293
 Wild, 117, 121, 131, 284
 William, Conq., 1, 2, 3, 28, 280
 Williamson, 196, 199
 Willoughby, 183
 Wolsey, 68, 70, 74, 99
 Wood, 200
 Woode, 275, 276, 280
 Woods, 153
 Worley, 133
 Wright, 151, 157, 199
 Wyat, 33, 71
 Wydville, 65, 65 n, 66, 95, 113
 Wygeburgh' de, 21
 Wykes, 76, 95, 116 n, 126
 Wyndham, 270
 Wyott, 259, 259 n, 260, 262
 Yardley, 95
 York, Archb. of, 5, 6
 Zouche, de la, 14, 19, 24, 29, 30, 47

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA.

- p. 8 line 13, 28, Manor of Ametut [? Ampthill co. Beds.]
 „ 55n. last line, for traces read *taces*.
 „ 59 last line but one, for Carpenter read *Canterbury*.
 „ 81 line 2, for Dinham read *Dyrham*.
 „ 82 line 14, for Somerset read *Suffolk*.
 „ 92 line 20, Dame Ann Poyntz was buried in St. Katherine's Church near the Tower, and about 50 years ago, when that Church was taken down, the monuments were removed to St. Katherine's in the Regent Park, built, we believe, in lieu of it.
 „ 95 first descent, for Carpenter read *Canterbury*.
 „ second descent, for Blechworth read *Bletchworth*.
 „ third descent, for Huddesfield read *Huddersfield*.
 „ 96 last descent, for Williams read *William*.
 „ 99 lines 10 and 18, for Recorders read *Recoverers*.
 „ 104 line 11, for grandfather read *Uncle*.
 „ 103 line 14, for Pontaferry read *Portaferry*.
 „ 109 line 11, delete *only*.
 „ 111 last descent—for Rose Hall, only dau. and heir, read *Rose Hall 'only dau.* Lady Elizabeth Cust writes to us that Roger Hall and Christian Poyntz besides a daughter Rose had a son named Toby, who succeeded his father at Mount Hall, from which Roger she is descended.
 „ 135 line 14, for first read *second*.
 „ 198 heading Table X read Table IX. (There is no Table X.)
 „ 199 second descent, from Sarah Poyntz, born 8 Dec., 1707 read *8 Dec., 1708*.
 „ 200 second descent, delete *comma* after Munroe.
 „ 204 line 11, for Padwick read *Padworth*.
 „ 205 line 9, for ever read *even*.
 „ 213 note 2, for Townsend read *Townshend*.
 „ 215 line 38, for call read *calls*.
 „ 219 line 13, for Spousers read *Sponsors*.
 „ 220 line 15 and 16, for Townsend read *Townshend*.
 „ 221 line 27, for was razed to the ground read *were* razed to the ground.
 „ 223 line 3, from bottom, for Mr. Roundell read *Mrs. Roundell*.
 pp. 229 and 233, No. 233, for Plewet probably we should read *Blewet*.
 p. 253 fifth descent, for 1190 read 1100.
 „ 255 line 13, for Geoffry read *Drogo*.
 „ 276 line 30, for Dewbouis read *Devbonis*.
 „ 278 line 2, for parish read *parishes*.
 „ 283 4th letter.
 There is a letter at Spencer House from Solomon Poyntz, Vershorten, 26th Dec., 1726, to Stephen Poyntz, acknowledging the receipt of his Excellency's portrait.
 Also a letter from Robert Poyntz of Padworth, to his uncle Stephen, dated from Holland in 1734, in which he says—My cousin Poyntz is a middling-sized man. His house and gardens are very magnificent. He is one of the Burgomasters of Vershorten. He is very agreeable in person and talk.
 Vershorten is not far from the Hague.
 „ 289 line 18, for out-generated read *out-generalled*.
 „ 290 line 32, for Admirals read *Generals*.

HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL MEMOIR
OF THE
FAMILY OF POYNTZ.

HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL MEMOIR
OF THE
FAMILY OF POYNTZ,
OR
EIGHT CENTURIES OF AN ENGLISH HOUSE.

By SIR JOHN MACLEAN, F.S.A.,
HON. MEMBER OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTION OF CORNWALL, &c.

(Only 75 Copies Printed.)

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1886.

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TO
CHARLES POYNTZ STEWART, ESQ.,
AND
TO THE MEMORY OF
EDMUND MONTAGU BOYLE, ESQ.,
IN RECOGNITION OF A FRIENDSHIP OF MANY YEARS,
AND OF
THE INTEREST WHICH THEY HAVE TAKEN IN THE WORK,
THIS MEMOIR OF THEIR ANCESTORS
IS
AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED
BY THE
AUTHOR.

P R E F A C E .

It seems scarcely necessary to write anything by way of Preface to this volume. It tells its own tale, being the memoir of one of the most ancient knightly families of the kingdom. The chiefs of the elder line, indeed, were summoned to Parliament in the reign of Edward I, but this dignity soon expired. The junior branch maintained an honoured position, descending in a direct line, from father to son, most of them attained equestrian rank, for upwards of three centuries, and during that period they formed alliances with the most eminent houses. Their blood still flows in the veins of many of our most distinguished noble and gentle families.

In writing the history of this family I have succeeded in proving its descent, at least from the Conquest, and probably from an earlier date, to the present time, for two branches, in direct male descent, still exist. In this laborious undertaking I have been guided by one leading principle throughout—historical truth—and I have, as far as practicable, quoted authorities for the statements made, and in any cases in which the direct authorities are wanting, I have been careful to shew the grounds upon which any conclusions I have drawn are based. These instances are very few; and the reader will have an opportunity of judging for himself how far these conclusions are justified by the facts.

The history of the family has been a very chequered one. Many of its members have been men of great worth and integrity, honoured by the sovereigns of the day, whilst some others, as may be found in most families, have been dissolute and abandoned, whom no one could respect. In writing

of the latter I have endeavoured to "nothing extenuate nor set aught down in malice." I have not attempted to conceal their faults, though some of them deserve severe censure, for they brought disgrace and ruin upon themselves and their children.

The varying circumstances affecting a family extending over a period of eight centuries, though history may not have left many memorials of the personal actions of its members, cannot fail to afford many glimpses illustrative of the social condition of the country and of the manners, habits, and feelings of the people at different periods; and this will be found to be the case in the present volume.

With these few remarks I commit the work to the favourable consideration of the public. It has been written under the pressure of much other literary labour, and I must beseech the kind indulgence of the reader. In a work of this nature, so abounding in names and dates, it cannot fail but that, with the utmost care, errors will creep in, for which I must apologise by anticipation.

In conclusion I must express my great obligation to the late Rev. Frederick Brown of Beckenham, who generously placed at my service his valuable collection relating to this family in the modern period of its history, and to which I am greatly indebted. I must also thank, generally, the numerous Clergymen who, in this case, as in almost every other, have courteously responded to my requests for information from their Parish Registers. My thanks are also due to the Rev. John Bathurst Deane, of Bath, for obligingly allowing me the use of his blocks of the Portrait and of the Funeral Car of Major General Deane.

J. M.





